

Transcript of James Dondero

Date: May 10, 2021

Case: UBS Securities LLC, et al. -v- Highland Capital Management, L.P.

Planet Depos

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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
                                                                                 APPEARANCES
          FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
    DALLAS DIVISION
                                                                    3 ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFFS:
                    ----X
: Chapter 11
                                                                            ANDREW CLUBOK, ESQUIRE
   HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Case No:
                                                                   15
                                                                            SARAH TOMKOWIAK, ESQUIRE
                   Debtor
                               : 19-34054-SGJ11
                                                                            KATHRYN GEORGE, ESQUIRE
   -----:
                                                                           LATHAM & WATKINS LLP
   UBS SECURITIES LLC and UBS AG : Adversary No.
                                                                   8
                                                                          555 Eleventh Street, NW
  LONDON BRANCH, : 21-03020-sgi
                                                                            Suite 1000
10
          Plaintiffs, :
                                                                    10
                                                                            Washington, District of Columbia 20004
                                                                            (202) 637-2200
12 HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.:
                                                                    12
                     Defendant. :
14
   -----x
                                                                       ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT-HIGHLAND CAPITAL MGMT.
                                                                    15
                                                                            ROBERT FEINSTEIN, ESQUIRE
16
             DEPOSITION OF JAMES DONDERO
                                                                    16
                                                                            JOHN MORRIS, ESQUIRE
17
         APPEARING REMOTELY FROM DALLAS, TEXAS
                                                                    17
                                                                            GREGORY DEMO, ESQUIRE
               MONDAY, MAY 10, 2021
                                                                            JEFFREY POMERANTZ, ESQUIRE
19
                  11:00 A.M. EST
                                                                            PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES
20
                                                                    20
                                                                            780 Third Avenue
                                                                    21
                                                                            34th Floor
22 Job No.: 371141
                                                                            New York, New York 10017
                                                                    22
23 Pages 1 - 267
                                                                            (212)561-7700
24 Reported by: Adrienne Mignano, RPR
                                                                    24
25 Appearing remotely
            Deposition of JAMES DONDERO, held via Zoom
                                                                                APPEARANCES (Continued)
  videoconferencing, pursuant to Notice, before Adrienne
   M. Mignano, a Registered Professional Reporter and a
   Notary Public in and for the State of New York.
                                                                       ON BEHALF OF WITNESS
                                                                           CLAY TAYLOR, ESOUTRE
                                                                           BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES, LLP
                                                                           420 Throckmorton Street
                                                                            Suite 1000
                                                                           Fort Worth, Texas 76102
                                                                            (817)405-6900
12
                                                                    12
                                                                    13 ALSO PRESENT:
                                                                    14 Drew Halton - Videographer
15
                                                                       Jordan Collins - Remote Technician
                                                                       Joshua Tubbs - Remote Technician
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The videographer today is Drew Halton, representing Planet Depos. All participants are attending remotely. Which is proceeding for backup purposes. Any off-the-record discussions should be had sway from the computer. Please remember to speak slowly and do your best not to talk over one samother. REMOTE TECH: Thank you to everyone for attending this proceeding for backup purposes. Any off-the-record discussions should be had sway from the computer. Please remember to mate your mic 10 for those conversations. Please have or wideo cnabled to help 12 the reporter identify who is speaking. If you are 13 mabbe to connect with video and are connecting 14 via phone, please identify yourself each time 15 before speaking. Please the propose of the planet please identify yourself cach time 15 before speaking. Please the purposes. Any off-the-record discussions should be had sway from the computer. Please remember to mate your mic 10 for those conversations. Please have you video cnabled to help 12 the reporter identify who is speaking. If you are 13 mabbe to connect with video and are connecting 15 manufactured with video deposition of James 20 Dondero in the matter of URS. It is 4 with the video should be had sway from the computer. Please remember to mate your mic 16 for those conversations. The VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins Tape 10 planet 10 p	5 5 7			
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4 Would counsel please voice identify 5 themselves and state whom they represent. 6 MR. CLUBOK: On behalf of UBS, it is 7 Andrew Clubok, Sarah Tomkowiak and Kathryn George, 8 all from Latham & Wattins LIP. 9 MR. FEINSTIEN: On behalf of the 10 defendant, Highland Capital Management, I'm Robert 11 Feinstie in From Pachulski, Stang, Ziehl & Jones. 12 With me are my colleagues, Jeffrey Pomerantz, John 13 Morris and Gregory Demo. 14 MR. TAYLOR: Clay Taylor on behalf of 15 Jim Dondero, appearing pursuant to a subpoena 16 issued to a third-party. 17 Just for purposes of a clean record, I 18 believe the case number at that was identified was 19 the main bankruptey case number rather than the 20 adversary number, and that probably needs to be 21 corrected. 22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Sir, if you have 23 that wailable, would you mind reading that into 24 the record now? 25 MR. TAYLOR: Certainly. 6 Please be aware we are recording this 26 proceeding for backup purposes. Any 27 of these record discussions should be had away from 28 the record now? 29 Justin management is marked to the plant of the computer, which we 30 anticipate will run smoothly. Please remember to 30 another. 6 Please be aware we are recording this 7 recording for backup purposes. Any 30 off-the-record discussions should be had away from 4 the record now? 21 the reporter identify who is speaking. If you are 31 analise to connect with video and are connecting 4 was phone, please identify yourself each time 15 before speaking. 18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins Tape 19 Dymmber 1 in the videotaged deposition of James 20 Dondero in the matter of UBS Securities LLC, et 21 al. versus Highland Capital Management I. The 22 U.S. Bankruptey Court, Northern District of Texus, 23 Dellas Division, Case Number 10-34045-450J11. 4 Today's date is May lith, 2021. The 4 MR. TAYLOR: Clay Taylor on behalf of 11 Feinstein from Pachulski, Stang, Ziehl & Jones. 12 Whereupon. 13 morris and Gregory Demo. 14 MR. TAYLOR: Clay Taylor on behal	3 EXAMINATION OF JAMES DONDERO PAGE			
5 themselves and state whom they represent. 6 MR. CLUBOK: On behalf of UBS, it is 7 Andrew Clubok, Sarah Tomkowiak and Kathryn George, 8 all from Latham & Watkins LLP. 9 MR FEINSTEIN: On behalf of the 10 defendant, Highland Capital Management, I'm Robert 11 Feinstein from Pachuski, Stang, Zielh & Jones. 12 Eachibit 29 December demonstration from Pachuskis, Stang, Zielh & Jones. 13 Eachibit 29 December demonstration from Pachuskis, Stang, Zielh & Jones. 14 Eachibit 29 December demonstration from Pachuskis, Stang, Zielh & Jones. 15 Lentities connected to Sentinel 16 Sentines 22 Eachibit 29 December demonstration from Pachuskis, Stang, Zielh & Jones. 17 Jeannes 22 Eachibit 29 December demonstration from Pachuskis, Stang, Zielh & Jones. 18 Pachibit 29 December description from Pachuskis, Stang, Zielh & Jones. 19 Lentitie 29 December demonstration from Pachuskis, Stang, Zielh & Jones. 20 December 19 Jean 20	4 By Mr. Clubok 8			
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10 defendant, Highland Capital Management, I'm Robert	9 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT PAGE			
11	10 Exhibit 23 Subpoena 63			
12 With me are my colleagues, Jeffrey Pomerantz, John 13 statements 14 shibit 26 one-page Document identifying 15 smittles connected to Sintine1 16 skibit 27 E-mail chain 17 shibit 28 connected to Sintine1 18 shibit 29 obecament tates stanged 20 shibit 29 obecament tates numbered 5322 711 20 skibit 29 occament mates numbered 5322 711 21 Shibit 20 occaber 19, 2010 22 contained and occaber 19, 2010 23 that available, would you mind reading that into 24 the record now? 25 MR. TAYLOR: Clay Taylor on behalf of 18 believe the case number that was identified was 19 the main bankruptcy case number rather than the 20 adversary number, and that probably needs to be 21 corrected. 22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Sir, if you have 23 that available, would you mind reading that into 24 the record now? 25 MR. TAYLOR: Certainly. 8 1 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Thank you. 26 anticing this proceeding remotely, which we 3 anticipate will run smoothly. Please remember to 4 speak slowly and do your best not to talk over one 5 another. 6 Please be aware we are recording this 7 proceeding for backup purposes. Any 9 off-the-record discussions should be had away from 9 the computer. Please remember to mute your mic 10 for those conversations. 11 Please have your video enabled to help 12 the reporter identify who is speaking. If you are 13 unable to connect with video and are connecting 14 via phone, please identify yourself each time 15 Jim Dondero, appearing pursuant to a subponen 16 Issued to a third-party. 18 believe the case number that was identified was 19 the main bankruptcy case number rather than the 20 attending this was identify awas identified was 19 the main bankruptcy case number rather than the 22 users an unable to ease number ather than the 23 data available, would you mind reading that into 24 the record now? 25 MR. TAYLOR: Crainly. 26 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. 27 MR. TAYLOR: One second, please. Just 28 pulling it up. 29 Depos. 20 Depos. 21 Whereupon, 21 JAMES DONDERO, 21 being first duly sworn or affirmed to testify to 21 the truth, the who	11 Exhibit 24 E-mail dated May 6, 2021 66	, , ,		
13 Morris and Gregory Demo. 14 MR. TAYLOR: Clay Taylor on behalf of 15 months of the sendence of the sen	12 Exhibit 25 Revised unaudited financial 127			
14 MR. TAYLOR: Clay Taylor on behalf of 15 Jim Dondero, appearing pursuant to a subpoena 1 15 Lim Dondero, appearing pursuant to a subpoena 1 15 Jim Dondero, appearing pursuant to a subpoena 1 16 issued to a third-party. 17 Just for purposes of a clean record, I 18 believe the case number that was identified was 1 19 the main bankruby cover after after than the 2 20 adversary number, and that probably needs to be 21 corrected. 22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Sir, if you have 2 3 that available, would you mind reading that into 24 the record now? 2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Thank you. 3 Please bave solvy and do your best not to talk over one 3 pulling it up. 4 MR. CLUBOK: I believe it is Number 1 1 15 Jim Dondero, appearing p	13 statements			
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18 Exhibit 29 Document Bates stamped 294 18 Deliver the case number that was identified was 19 the main bankruptcy case number than the 20 adversary number, and that probably needs to be 21 corrected. 22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Sir, if you have 23 that available, would you mind reading that into 24 the record now 25 MR. TAYLOR: Certainly. 8 1 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Thank you. 2 MR. TAYLOR: One second, please. Just 3 pulling it up. 4 MR. CLUBOK: I believe it is Number 5 21-03020-SGJ. 6 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Andy. 7 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The court reporter 10 for those conversations. 11 Please have your video enabled to help 12 the reporter identify whice and are comecting 14 via phone, please identify yourself each time 15 before speaking. 16 I apologize in advance for any 17 technical-related interruptions. Thank you. 18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins Tape 19 Number I in the videotaped deposition of James 20 Dondero in the matter of UBS Securities LLC, et 21 al. versus Highland Capital Management LP in the 22 US. Bankruptey Court, Northern District of Texas, 3 Dallas Division; Case Number 19-34054-8GJ11. 24 Today's date is May 10th, 2021. The 17 Just for purposes of a clean record, I 18 believe the case number that was identified was 19 the main bankruptey case nant bank ruptor than the 20 adversary number, and that probably needs to be 21 corrected. 22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Sir, if you have 23 that available, would you mind reading that into 24 the record now 25 MR. TAYLOR: Certainly. 2 MR. TAYLOR: One second, please. Just 3 pulling it up. 4 MR. CLUBOK: 1 believe it is Number 5 21-03020-SGJ. 6 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Andy. 7 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The court reporter 8 today is Adrienne Mignano, representing Planet 9 Depos. 10 Would the reporter please swear in the 11 witness. 12 Whereupon, 13 JAMES DONDERO, 14 witness. 12 Whereupon, 13 JAMES DONDERO, 14 witness. 15 Whereupon, 16 Would the reporter please swear in the	16 Exhibit 27 E-mail chain 172			
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Conducted on May 10, 2021			
9		11	
1 Q And you understand that in a deposition	1 A Yes.		
2 we have to be careful not to talk over each other,	2 Q Any reason why you can't give fully		
3 right?	3 truthful, accurate answers to questions today?		
4 A Yes.	4 A No.		
5 Q If either of us if I find either of	Okay. Mr. Dondero, you used to be		
6 us doing that, like if I start talking before	6 effectively in charge of Highland Capital		
7 you're done answering or if you start answering	7 Management until the bankruptcy, correct?		
8 before I'm done talking, I may try to stop and	8 A Yes.		
9 reset so the court reporter can get a clean	9 Q And you were also in charge of other		
10 record. Do you understand that?	10 entities besides Highland Capital Management,		
11 A Okay.	11 correct?		
12 Q And so to that end, if you'd pause for	12 A Yes.		
13 just a second when you think I'm done to make sure	MR. CLUBOK: Is that noise coming from		
14 I'm done, and I'll try to do the same for you,	14 somewhere? I don't know if you're hearing that.		
15 that will help us make sure we don't talk over	MR. TAYLOR: Yes, there is an emergency		
16 each other as much as possible, okay?	16 alert that is being issued for this area for a		
17 A Yes.	17 severe thunderstorm, and that was what was what		
18 Q And you know that if you say "uh-huh"	18 you heard in the background. So to the extent we		
19 or "uh-uh" and shake your head or something like	19 have a tornado come through, we'll have to shut it		
20 that, that may not be clear on the record, and so	20 down.		
21 instead of doing that, you'll try to answer with	21 MR. CLUBOK: I think we had a tornado		
22 like "yes" or "no" as opposed to head signals or	22 come through one deposition before that I was		
23 "uh-huhs"; is that okay?	23 involved with Mr. Dondero, at least one of them, I		
24 A Yes.	24 seem to recall. But		
25 Q And if I catch you doing it, I'll just	25 THE WITNESS: It will be a sign from		
10		12	
1 say, is that a yes? I'm not trying to be rude. I	1 God that you should stop.		
2 just want to make sure you're clear if you're	MR. CLUBOK: Yeah, well, we'll take it		
3 saying "uh-huh" or "uh-uh" or something. If it is	3 as a sign from the National Weather Service, too,		
4 actually a "no," just tell me, no, that meant that	4 that we should stop.		
5 was a no. But I may follow up with you if I catch	5 So let us know, Clay, if you do get any		
6 you giving a nonverbal answer, okay?	6 kind of notice like that that says you need to		
7 A Yes.	7 take some kind of action.		
8 Q And you understand you're under oath	8 Q By the way, Mr. Dondero, do you have		
9 and you have to tell the truth as completely and	9 anything at all in front of you as you're sitting		
10 accurately as possible?	10 there today?		
11 A Yes.	11 A Just the laptop.		
12 Q And you understand if I ask you a	Q Just the laptop with the video. Is		
13 question that is capable of being answered with a	13 there anything on the laptop other than the Zoom		
14 simple yes or no, you will do that, correct?	14 screen for this deposition?		
15 A Yes.	15 A Nope.		
16 Q And by the way, if I happen to ask	16 Q Okay. And you understand you're not		
17 sometimes I find I have seen in these	17 allowed to refer to anything notes or anything,		
18 transcripts where I may ask a double negative. If	18 assistance in answering questions, without letting		
19 I said, for example, it's not raining outside, and	19 us know that you're doing that, correct?		
20 you are like, no, that could be confusing. And if	20 A Yes.		
21 I catch us doing that, if I see us doing that, I	21 Q Okay. Thank you.		
22 might follow up and say, it is true that it is not	So, sir, one of the other entities that		
23 raining outside, right? I'm just doing that,	23 you that you're in control of is an entity		
24 again, to make sure the record is clear as opposed	24 Called Sentinel Insurance, correct?		
25 to unclear. Is that okay with you?	25 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.		

Conducted or	n May 10, 2021			
13	15			
1 A I wouldn't use the word "control."	1 Q Was it more than \$1 million?			
2 Q Okay. And I think I said the wrong	2 A Probably, but I don't			
aname. I think it is technically called Sentinel	3 Q Was it more than \$10 million?			
4 Reinsurance. Is that the name of the entity?	4 A I don't know.			
5 A I don't know the official name. It's	5 Q Was it more than \$100 million?			
6 Sentinel something.	6 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, I'm going to ask			
7 Q Okay. And what does Sentinel	7 that you move on. It's been asked and answered			
8 Reinsurance do?	8 four times now.			
9 A It's an offshore Cayman-based	9 A I really don't know, Andy.			
10 reinsurance company.	10 Q Was it more than \$1 billion?			
Q What does that mean?	11 A It was less than \$1 billion, I'm sure,			
12 A As far as I understand, it does some	12 but I don't know how much it was.			
13 insurance, it does some reinsurance and it I	13 Q Okay. Was it less than \$500 million?			
14 believe it is conforming and it is in compliance	14 MR. TAYLOR: Objection.			
15 with regulations regarding qualification as a	15 A Yes.			
16 Cayman reinsurer and it invests its capital and	16 Q Okay. Was it less than \$100 million?			
17 its premiums.	17 A I don't know.			
18 Q You own part of Sentinel Reinsurance,	18 Q Okay. Was it less than \$250 million?			
19 correct?	19 MR. TAYLOR: Objection.			
20 A I believe I'm a beneficial holder of a	20 A Was it less than yes.			
21 majority of it.				
	I			
23 the majority of Sentinel Reinsurance, correct?	Q Was it less than 150 million?			
A Yes.	24 A Yes.			
25 Q And you have been since its founding,	25 Q Okay. Was it less than 125 million?			
14 correct?	16 1 A Yes.			
Q And, in fact, you are the beneficial				
holder of approximately 70 percent of the economic	4 Q Was it more than 1 million?			
5 interest in Sentinel Reinsurance, correct?	5 A I don't know, Andy.			
6 A I believe that's approximately correct.	6 Q Okay. So fair to say I thought you			
7 Q And the other beneficial holder of	7 said it was probably more than a million, you			
8 Sentinel Reinsurance is Scott Ellington, right?	8 thought.			
9 A I believe so.	9 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Asked and			
10 Q And you and Scott Ellington are the	10 answered.			
11 only two beneficial holders of the economic	11 A Yes.			
12 interest in Sentinel Reinsurance, correct?	12 Q Okay. So is there so do you have			
13 A I I don't know. I believe so, but I	any ability to narrow the amount of capital you			
14 don't know.	14 invested in Sentinel Reinsurance in a range that			
15 Q And that's been the case since the	15 is smaller than from 1 to \$125 million?			
16 founding of Sentinel Reinsurance, to the best of	16 A From 1 to 100 would be the range. And			
17 your knowledge, correct?	17 I don't have a basis for knowing more specifically			
18 A To the best of my knowledge.	18 than that.			
19 Q Did you invest any money in Sentinel	19 Q And you have no idea within that range			
20 Reinsurance, invest any capital?	20 whether it was closer to 1 million or closer to			
21 A I believe so.	21 100. It's just somewhere in that range and you			
22 Q Roughly how much?	22 have no further information. Is that your			
23 A I don't know.	23 testimony?			
24 Q Roughly. 25 A I don't know. I don't remember.	24 A Yes. 25 Q When did you put the capital into			

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17	19		
1 Sentinel Reinsurance?	1 A I don't know what the address is here.		
A I don't know. A half of a dozen years	2 THE WITNESS: Do you know what the		
3 ago, I guess. I don't know.	3 address is here?		
4 Q Just at its founding?	4 Hold on one second. We'll get it for		
5 A No. I think there's been other	5 you.		
6 contributions along the way also.	6 MR. TAYLOR: Well, just for purposes of		
7 Q Do you have records of how much you've	7 a clean record, I'm showing Mr. Dondero something		
8 invested into Sentinel Reinsurance?	8 off of my calendar where I have the address		
9 A No, I do not.	9 written down so that he can refer to it, and it's		
Q You have no tax records, no records	10 just a calendar appointment from my phone.		
11 with your investment, there is no record at all in	11 A It's 2515 McKinney Avenue.		
12 your control that would tell you how much you	12 Q And do you have a permanent office in		
13 invested in Sentinel Reinsurance in a closer	13 that location?		
14 approximation than 1 to \$100 million?	14 A Yes.		
15 A I don't know. All I know is if I was a	15 Q What other entities work in the same		
16 tax reporter or if it was offshore income, or if	16 location that are in any way connected to you?		
17 it was if it was however it was supposed to	17 A NexBank, NextPoint and I don't know		
18 be properly accounted for, I'm confident that it	18 how we're doing the shared services with		
19 was. There was no attempt to not comply with	19 SkyBridge. I don't know if SkyBridge is		
20 whatever regulation or taxing was relevant.	20 associated with me. So I but they're in the		
21 Q Okay. But do you keep records of your	21 offices here, too, at the moment. We're getting		
22 investments somewhere?	22 office space we were expecting to stay at		
23 A I do not.	23 Highland so it's been a bunch it's been a we		
24 Q Does anyone keep records of your	24 located over here relocated over here quickly,		
25 investments on your benefit	25 but ultimately we'll spread out from here at some		
18	20		
1 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.	point.		
1) [] []Oes anyone on voiir behait veen records			
Q Does anyone on your behalf keep records	Q And you said you named a woman who		
3 of your investments, to your knowledge, like an	3 had your personal balance sheets, Melissa and		
3 of your investments, to your knowledge, like an4 accountant, a tax preparer, a lawyer, a financial	3 had your personal balance sheets, Melissa and4 could you spell her last name.		
3 of your investments, to your knowledge, like an 4 accountant, a tax preparer, a lawyer, a financial 5 advisor, anyone like that?	 3 had your personal balance sheets, Melissa and 4 could you spell her last name. 5 A S-H-R-O-T-H. 		
 3 of your investments, to your knowledge, like an 4 accountant, a tax preparer, a lawyer, a financial 5 advisor, anyone like that? 6 A The tax department handles all my taxes 	 3 had your personal balance sheets, Melissa and 4 could you spell her last name. 5 A S-H-R-O-T-H. 6 Q Does she work there in the building 		
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21	23		
1 Q Have you in any way communicated	1 SkyBridge and NexBank and NextPoint.		
2 directly or indirectly with Scott Ellington about	2 Q Have you spoken with Katie Irving at		
3 anything in 2021?	3 all in 2021?		
4 MR. FEINSTEIN: Can I just interject	4 A I have not. I believe she is on		
5 here for one second, please? This is Rob	5 maternity leave, still.		
6 Feinstein.	6 Q Have you when you spoke with		
7 So I did want to put a comment on the	7 Mr. Sevilla, did you talk in any way about		
8 record regarding Highland Capital Management's	8 Sentinel Reinsurance?		
9 attorney-client privilege as it pertains to this	9 A No.		
10 deposition. So I want to be very clear that we	10 Q When was the last time you spoke to		
11 are not waiving the privilege in regard to	11 anybody about Sentinel Reinsurance other than your		
12 anything with one exception, and that is the	12 lawyers?		
13 matters and transactions that are discussed in the	13 A I haven't. I know I haven't and I		
14 Highland Capital Management motion for approval of			
	14 have purposely not tried to refamiliarize myself		
15 UBS settlement, and I think, in particular,	15 with anything there.		
16 paragraphs 5 to 11, which set forth the facts and	16 Q When was the last time you were		
17 circumstances regarding the Sentinel Reinsurance	17 familiar with anything		
18 insurance policy and related transactions, and as	18 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.		
19 to those matters, we are not asserting the	19 Q When was the last time you spoke with		
20 privilege.	20 anybody about Sentinel Reinsurance prior to 2021?		
21 BY MR. CLUBOK:	21 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.		
22 Q Have you in any way communicated	Q Okay. Let me just ask, other than your		
23 directly or indirectly with Scott Ellington about	23 lawyers, who was the last person you spoke to		
24 anything in 2021?	24 about Sentinel Reinsurance on any matter?		
25 A No.	A I can't remember specifically. It		
22	24		
1 Q Have you communicated directly or	1 would have been it would have been Scott		
2 indirectly with Isaac Leventon about anything in	2 Ellington. And I it would have been sometime		
3 2021?	3 last year. And it really would have been in the		
4 A No.	4 context of we were trying to get a Cayman bank		
5 Q Have you communicated with J.P. Sevilla	5 going, and there was going to be there was		
6 in 2021 about anything?	6 going to be some involvement, I think, from		
7 A Yes. J.P Sevilla is actively engaged	7 Sentinel and Matt, but we didn't get the bank off		
8 in a lot of Highland- and NextPoint-related	8 the ground last year.		
9 activities. Or not Highland, I'm sorry. Alot of	9 Q Is this post bankruptcy?		
10 NextPoint-related activities and SkyBridge-related	10 A I don't know. It was either post		
11 activities.	11 bankruptcy or shortly before.		
12 Q Does Mr. Sevilla have an office in the	12 Q Did you ever speak with Jim Seery about		
13 same building you're in now?	13 Sentinel Reinsurance?		
14 A Yes. Not in the same floor, but in the	14 A No, I did not.		
15 same building.	15 Q Did you ever speak with John Dubel		
16 Q And when was the last time you spoke	16 about Sentinel Reinsurance?		
17 with Mr. Sevilla?	17 A No, I did not.		
18 A Last week.	18 Q Did you ever speak with Judge Nelms		
19 Q How about Matt DiOrio? Do you speak	19 about Sentinel Reinsurance?		
20 with him at all?	A No, I did not.		
21 A Infrequently. I think I have spoken to	21 Q Did you tell any of the lawyers at the		
22 him once this year.	22 Pachulski law firm anything about Sentinel		
Q When was that?	23 Reinsurance?		
24 A When we first moved here early March to	A No, I did not.		
25 set up the shared services agreement between	Q Have you ever told anyone at UBS		

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25	27		
anything about Sentinel Reinsurance?	A No. I don't think I ever have.		
A I do not think so.	Q How did you know what was in their		
Q You have spoken with Isaac Leventon	3 portfolio?		
4 about Sentinel Reinsurance in the past, correct?	4 A Ellington would tell me when they had		
5 A No, I do not believe I have. I	5 cash available. It was really when they had cash		
6 don't I didn't think Isaac was materially	6 available to spend he would be looking for		
7 involved with Sentinel before.	7 suggestions.		
8 Q You have spoken to J.P. Sevilla about	8 Q And other than Ellington coming to you		
9 Sentinel Reinsurance, right?	9 for suggestions about how to spend cash that		
10 A No. I sentinel Reinsurance is not	10 Sentinel Reinsurance had available, you can't		
11 something I was intimately involved with on an	11 recall any other specific business issue that		
12 operating or day-to-day basis. Ellington is the	12 Scott Ellington ever came to you with about		
13 only person I remember talking to Sentinel about,	13 with respect to Sentinel Reinsurance?		
14 really, ever.	14 A Correct.		
15 Q The only person you have ever spoken to	15 Q Did you know who were the insurers that		
16 about Sentinel Reinsurance, as you can recall	16 Sentinel Reinsurance did business with?		
17 sitting here today, other than your lawyers in	17 A No. I mean, I know generally they did		
18 this matter, is Scott Ellington; is that correct?	18 some D&O insurance, I think they did some title		
19 A Yes.	19 reinsurance, and they did some other policies.		
20 Q Have you ever spoken with Matt DiOrio	20 But I don't know who specifically was on the other		
21 about Sentinel Reinsurance?	21 side of those policies.		
A No, I have not.	22 Q Do you have any idea about anyone who		
Q Have you ever spoken with any of the	23 was on the other side of any policy that's ever		
24 directors of Sentinel Reinsurance?	24 been issued by Sentinel Reinsurance?		
25 A No, I have not.	25 A I have a I mean, I have an awareness		
26	28		
1 Q Have you ever made decisions on behalf	1 of the policy that we're talking about here today,		
2 of Sentinel Reinsurance?	2 but it's really just a general awareness.		
3 A I think from time to time I gave some	Q What is your general awareness about		
4 investment advice, but that's that would be the	4 the policy that you're here to talk about today?		
5 extent of it.	5 A That it's a my recollection is that		
Q Did you ever make decisions on behalf	6 it's a \$100 million, plus/minus, but I think it's		
7 of Sentinel Reinsurance?	7 a \$100 million face policy. And it was done half		
8 A Not that I can recall other than, like	8 a dozen years ago, approximately.		
9 I said, periodically giving investment advice.	9 Q Who is the insured?		
10 Q But you when you say you gave	10 A I don't know I don't know. I		
11 investment advice, who did you give that advice	11 believe it was I don't know what part or which		
12 to?	12 entities, but I believe it was specifically,		
13 A Ellington.	13 but HFP was a holding company structure with four		
14 Q And that was just advice, it wasn't a	14 or five different subsidiaries. I believe it was		
15 directive?	15 some part of that organization.		
16 A Correct.	Q You believe that HFP was the insured		
17 Q And other than and what was that	17 under the policy that we're here to talk about		
18 specific advice you gave, if you can recall?	18 today?		
19 A I don't remember. Just that it was,	MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Misstates		
20 you know, periodically, infrequently, no more than	20 prior testimony.		
21 once I would say once a year on average, just	A Like I said, I didn't try and refresh		
22 advice if they had cash or were repositioning the	22 myself on this. I thought it was either a		
23 portfolio.	23 subsidiary or holding company or part of or all		
Q Did you receive any documents about the	24 of I don't know of that entity, as far as I		
25 financial position of Sentinel Reinsurance?	25 know.		
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Conducted or	1 May 10, 2021
29	31
1 Q Do you know anything else about the	1 Q Who paid for the policy?
2 insureds under the policy other than that?	A I believe the beneficiary paid for the
3 A No, I do not.	3 policy.
Q Do you know what the point of the	4 Q Which beneficiary?
5 policy is?	A I don't know. I don't know, whichever
6 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Vague.	6 was the beneficiary of the policy I believe paid
7 Q Do you know what the policy is designed	7 for it.
8 to insure against?	8 Q And your testimony is that the
9 A I've never seen the policy. I don't	9 beneficiary is some part of the HFP complex, as
10 know the specific payout triggers and no, I do	10 you call it?
11 not.	11 A Yes.
12 Q You have no idea whatsoever, sitting	12 Q And did the okay. And did you have
13 here today, what this policy that we're here to	13 any
14 talk about today was designed to insure against.	14 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.
15 Is that your testimony?	15 Q When did you first hear about this
16 A That's correct. I have never seen it.	16 policy?
17 I don't know the specifics of it.	17 A I mean, at or about when it was put
18 Q Do you generally know what the policy	18 together. I mean, you know yeah, at or about
19 that we're here to talk about today was designed	19 shortly before when it was put together.
20 to ensure against?	
	20 Q Well, was it so shortly before it 21 was put together you were told about it?
A Again, just really the most general	
22 sense. It was to provide, I believe, cash for	A Yes.
23 legal expenses and to defend against any claims, I	Q By whom?
24 believe, that whatever relevant entity was the	A I'm sorry, was there a question there?
25 beneficiary in the HFP complex, to provide them	25 Q I'm sorry, I said, "By whom?" You said
30	32
1 with legal fees and serv cash for legal fees	1 shortly before the policy
 with legal fees and serv cash for legal fees and services to defend itself or operate or I 	1 shortly before the policy 2 A Scott Ellington crafted it, and then
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9 (33 to 36)

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33	35		
1 A Yes. I mean, whether it was him	1 then any you know, similarly, any business		
2 directly or him working with reinsurance brokers	2 issues or legacy issues, whether it's around		
3 or him working with third parties, I don't know.	3 you know, UBS or Citibank or Barclays or any other		
4 But he was the one that brought it to me or and	4 institutions that had conflict with HFP, you know,		
5 proposed the policy.	5 there's, you know, a chance that that stuff could		
6 Q And what did Scott tell you about why	6 be active again.		
7 he was proposing the policy?	7 Q At the time the insurance policy was		
8 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form. Calls	8 taken out, you knew that HFP was in litigation		
9 for hearsay.	9 with UBS, correct?		
10 A I have answered this already, but,	10 A I don't know if that's true. I don't		
11 again, that there was a business purpose that I'd	11 know I don't remember. I don't remember I		
12 said already in terms of it was an illiquid pool	12 don't remember if the UBS litigation was active or		
13 of assets that was cash deficient, cash deprived	13 real when the policy was taken out. It could have		
14 that needed on a longer term basis liquidity and	14 been it might have been the UBS litigation		
15 an ability to fund legal fees and orchestrate	15 has been out there for a long time, but I don't		
16 legal activities. Whether it was defensive or	16 know specifically.		
17 offensive, I don't know. But it needed	17 Q You know the policy was specifically		
18 functionality and it needed liquidity.	18 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.		
19 Q Did Scott tell you any other purpose 20 for why he was proposing the policy other than	19 Q You know that part of the reason for 20 the policy was specifically to address the UBS		
	21 litigation; isn't that true?		
21 what you've just described?			
MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.	22 A I would rather stay with the testimony		
23 A That's the purpose as I understood it 24 and remember it.	23 that I just gave. I understood it to be broadly 24 based to handle any residual activities on the		
24 and remember it.	24 Daseu to Handre any restudat activities on the		
25 What do you mean by "orchestrate legal			
Q What do you mean by "orchestrate legal	25 litigation or regulatory or tax side.		
34	25 litigation or regulatory or tax side. 36		
1 activities"? What does that mean, as you used	25 litigation or regulatory or tax side. 1 Q Did you know at the time the policy was		
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23 can take a write-off, the tax authorities can

24 question that or challenge that or litigate that,

25 and then you need to be able to defend it. And

23 legal issues that -- I believe, and the way it was

24 characterized in my memory is that none of the

25 legal issues were viewed as material. They were

39 1 viewed as normal course resolutions of an entity agreement? For instance, would he help you in 2 that was going out of business. So it wasn't -your role as one of the advisors or for Sentinel 3 it wasn't in anticipation or because of one Reinsurance and give those entities counsel also? 4 particular thing. It was to handle liquidity and THE WITNESS: I mean, yeah. I mean, 5 functionality issues that the dead entity had. besides working for various entities, he did give Q That wasn't my question. My question me legal advice often, too. 7 is, did Mr. Ellington ever tell you in words or MR. TAYLOR: So, Andy, based upon that, 8 substance how the policy could be used we've got to assert the privilege. I don't know 9 specifically in connection with dealing with the exactly all of the roles Mr. Ellington may have 10 UBS litigation? 10 been filling, but if he was filling other types of MR. TAYLOR: Same objection. Calls for 11 roles under a shared services agreement or other, 11 12 hearsay. 12 that advice could have been to other clients, some 13 A The answer is no. Or no, not -- I 13 of which are not Highland Capital entity ones, and 14 don't remember -- I have no recollection of it 14 he can't answer those questions. 15 being -- of him having any specific comments or 15 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. Hold on a second 16 thoughts regarding the handling of the UBS 16 here. 17 litigation via the policy. 17 Q Mr. Dondero, did Mr. Ellington ever 18 Q Did Mr. Ellington, at or around the 18 give legal advice to Sentinel Reinsurance, as far 19 time the policy was being taken out, talk to you 19 as you know? 20 about a strategy for settling the UBS litigation? A I'm sure he did, actually. I mean, I 21 MR. TAYLOR: Hold on. Before you 21 think that was part of his role and function in 22 answer that, is Mr. Ellington an attorney at all? 23 THE WITNESS: He is. 23 Q You think as part of his role and 24 MR. TAYLOR: So I'm going to have to 24 function in Sentinel, he was an attorney in 25 ask that he not disclose -- first of all, it calls 25 addition to a part owner, giving legal advice to 38 40 1 for hearsay, and, second of all, it invades the 1 Sentinel Reinsurance, a Cayman-based company; is 2 attorney-client privilege and I'm instructing him that correct? 3 not to answer. A Yes. MR. CLUBOK: Hold on a second. I 4 Q And did you ever receive any legal 5 believe -advice from Scott Ellington that was specifically Q Mr. Dondero, Mr. Ellington at the time directed at Sentinel Reinsurance, as far as you know? 7 was the general counsel of Highland Capital 7 8 Management, correct? A I did not receive it, no. I mean, A Yes. yeah, no, I don't have specific awareness. 10 MR. CLUBOK: And the privilege, I 10 Q Okay. So this particular 11 believe, belongs to Highland Capital Management, 11 conversation -- when Mr. Ellington came to you and 12 who is here being represented by Mr. Feinstein. 12 said, we're going to -- came to you to talk to you 13 Mr. Feinstein --13 about the policy, he was not speaking to you as a 14 MR. FEINSTEIN: Right. And we are not 14 representative of Sentinel Reinsurance, correct? 15 asserting it as to conversations that in-house 15 A I don't know. I can't say because --16 counsel had with anyone on this topic. Q Well, let me ask it slightly MR. TAYLOR: And just so I'm clear, did 17 differently. When you considered -- you approved 18 Mr. Ellington have any other roles as counsel for 18 the policy, correct? 19 you in any other capacity in non-Highland Capital, A Yeah, I approved of him moving forward 19 20 other than as a debtor? Did he advise you in any 20 with the policy, yes. 21 of your other roles for --21 Q And did you approve on behalf of 22 Sentinel Reinsurance with Mr. Ellington moving THE WITNESS: I mean, yeah, he has 23 helped out on a lot of different things. Yes. 23 forward with the policy? MR. TAYLOR: So the record is clear, A No. He just -- he ran it by me as a 25 was Mr. Ellington under the shared services 25 solution and a business idea.

43 Q Okay. And he ran that by you -- okay. 1 Mr. Ellington was acting on behalf of and that you So as a solution as a business idea -have the right to instruct Mr. Dondero not to so as a solution as a business idea, did answer. That's what I want to get to. I'm Mr. Ellington tell you in words or substance that looking at this realtime. I don't see any the policy would assist in a strategy for settling specific entities mentioned. You are just saying 6 the UBS litigation? you assume that or you generally think that may be MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Calls for and et cetera. 8 hearsay. And just because something is a business 8 MR. TAYLOR: It could be Sentinel solution doesn't mean it doesn't have legal Reinsurance, Andy. 10 aspects, Andy. So, again, we have the 10 MR. CLUBOK: Sentinel Reinsurance -- he 11 attorney-client privilege. 11 just said that he was not accepting -- he was not MR. CLUBOK: And, specifically, 12 acting on behalf of Sentinel Reinsurance when 13 Mr. Taylor, what's the attorney-client privilege 13 Mr. Ellington gave him this suggestion. 14 that you are claiming? In what capacity was 14 Do you represent Sentinel Reinsurance? 15 Mr. Ellington acting as an attorney and in what 15 MR. TAYLOR: I do not, but I can't let 16 capacity is Mr. Dondero receiving statements from 16 my client waive their privilege. 17 him that is causing you to assert the privilege on 17 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. 18 this particular line of questioning? 18 Q Did you -- Mr. Dondero, did you -- by MR. TAYLOR: So it's my understanding, 19 the way, Mr. Dondero, what are you looking at 20 and Mr. Dondero can correct me if I'm wrong, that 20 right now? 21 Mr. Ellington under the shared services agreement 21 A My thumbnails. 22 not only provided legal services directly to 2.2. Q No, you weren't looking at your 23 Highland Capital Management but also to other 23 thumbnails. Is that it? You weren't --24 subsidiaries that are not owned nor controlled by 24 MR. TAYLOR: Andy --25 Highland Capital as we sit here today, and I am 25 A I was looking at my thumbnails. 42 44 1 merely asking that Mr. Dondero carefully consider MR. TAYLOR: -- I can represent to you 1 2 whether any of those services were legal services he is not holding anything in his hands, 3 directed to non-Highland Capital Management electronic, paper or otherwise. 4 entities. That is it. MR. CLUBOK: Mr. Dondero -- Mr. Dondero 5 I don't know exactly what might or has already testified that he received no legal 6 might not have been said. First of all, it calls advice on behalf of Sentinel Reinsurance from 7 for hearsay, but, second of all, to the extent Scott Ellington. So do you have any others that 8 that there was any legal advice rendered to any you are claiming other than Sentinel Reinsurance 9 non-Highland Capital Management entity that is not 9 that Mr. Ellington supposedly gave advice on 10 controlled by Highland Capital today, I believe 10 behalf of in this conversation that I was asking 11 you have to assert the attorney-client privilege, 11 Mr. Dondero about, that you're instructing on 12 Andy. 12 their behalf Mr. Dondero not to answer? 13 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. So two things. 13 MR. TAYLOR: I'm just representing 14 First of all, just generally speaking, I'm going 14 Mr. Dondero individually. There could be other 15 to ask you to stop making hearsay objections. You 15 entities. I believe there's three different 16 know those are preserved. You don't have to make 16 entities to whom you directed litigation hold 17 them at a deposition. In fact, you're not allowed 17 letters. I'm not representing those, but to the 18 to under the federal rules. So I'm just going to 18 extent any of those other two -- one of them had 19 ask you to stop continually making hearsay 19 the name Sentinel in them and one did not. 20 objections, please. Those objections, as you know 20 To the extent that any of those 21 well, are preserved. You make form and foundation 21 entities received legal advice from Mr. Ellington 22 objections, other than privilege. 22 and that was legal advice, he can't answer to Second of all, with respect to the 23 those entities either. He can't waive their 24 privilege, I am asking you for -- you cannot name 24 privilege. 25 a specific entity that you are asserting that 25 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. What entity -- name

Conducted on May 10, 2021			
45	47		
1 an entity other than are you asserting a	1 services agreement with Sentinel Reinsurance and		
2 privilege on behalf of Sentinel Reinsurance even	2 any other Highland entity?		
3 in light of what Mr. Dondero has testified under	A I don't know. I don't know if there		
4 oath? Yes or no?	4 was a formal one there. There were formal shared		
5 MR. TAYLOR: I'm asking him to consider	5 services agreements and then there were informal		
6 that he cannot waive those privileges on behalf of	6 shared services agreements.		
7 those entities.	7 Q Are you aware, sitting here today, of		
8 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. You're asking him	8 any formal shared services agreements with		
9 to consider. You're not are you instructing	9 Sentinel Reinsurance and any other Highland		
10 him not to answer on behalf of Sentinel	10 entity?		
11 Reinsurance? I just you did before.	11 A I don't know.		
12 MR. TAYLOR: It's impossible to answer,	12 Q You don't know if you are aware or, as		
13 Andy, because I don't know exactly what was told	13 you sit here today, it's true that you're not		
14 to him. I don't know			
	14 aware of any such shared services agreement		
15 MR. CLUBOK: Are you instructing him	15 between Sentinel Reinsurance and Highland; isn't		
16 not to answer, Clay?	16 that true?		
17 MR. TAYLOR: I'm instructing him not to	A I I don't know, meaning I don't have		
18 answer if he got any legal advice on behalf of any	18 awareness, but I'm and I don't want that to		
19 of those entities.	19 imply that there is or isn't one. I don't know.		
20 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. All right.	20 Q So getting back to Mr. Ellington, when		
21 Q So I'm going to go back to my question	21 he first broached you so I want to understand		
22 then, Mr. Dondero.	22 this. He broached you. At that time you were the		
Well, first of all, you didn't get	23 president of Highland Capital Management, correct?		
24 legal advice on behalf of Sentinel Reinsurance in	24 A Yes.		
25 this conversation with Scott Ellington about	25 Q And you were the sole director of		
46	48		
1 establishing the policy, correct?	MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.		
2 A Did I get I'm sorry, did I get legal	2 Q You were in control of what was left of		
3 advice from Scott Ellington regarding	3 Highland Financial Partners and its subsidiaries,		
4 Q Was he acting as your lawyer with	4 correct?		
5 respect to Sentinel Reinsurance or was he acting	A I don't know if it was me or Highland,		
6 as your lawyer with respect to Highland Capital	6 but we were trying to take a leadership role in		
7 and the other funds?	7 winding that entity down.		
8 A I mean, I think he's always wearing	8 Q You, Jim Dondero, were the decision		
9 multiple legal hats.	9 maker for what was left of Highland Financial		
Q Did you think at the time he broached	10 Partners and its subsidiaries at the time		
11 this policy with you he was wearing a legal hat	11 Mr. Ellington approached you about this insurance		
12 with respect to Sentinel Reinsurance?	12 policy, correct?		
13 A Yes, and with regard to Highland also.	13 A Generally.		
	Q And when Mr. Ellington talked to you		
114 V You mink so you were were you			
Q You think so you were were you 15 you were receiving legal advice from Scott			
15 you were receiving legal advice from Scott	15 about this insurance policy, you say he was		
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15 you were receiving legal advice from Scott 16 Ellington in your capacity as a majority owner of 17 Sentinel Reinsurance when he first broached you 18 about this policy? 19 A I think he was wearing a hat a legal 20 hat from a Sentinel perspective in terms of 21 structuring and understanding the policy, in order 22 to achieve the business purpose that he was trying 23 to achieve, that he then had to run through	15 about this insurance policy, you say he was 16 wearing many legal hats. Was one of the legal 17 hats he was wearing, to your knowledge, as a legal 18 advisor to Sentinel reinsurance? 19 A I believe so. 20 Q And was one of the legal hats that he 21 was wearing when he approached you about the 22 insurance policy as a legal advisor to Highland 23 Capital Management?		
15 you were receiving legal advice from Scott 16 Ellington in your capacity as a majority owner of 17 Sentinel Reinsurance when he first broached you 18 about this policy? 19 A I think he was wearing a hat a legal 20 hat from a Sentinel perspective in terms of 21 structuring and understanding the policy, in order 22 to achieve the business purpose that he was trying	15 about this insurance policy, you say he was 16 wearing many legal hats. Was one of the legal 17 hats he was wearing, to your knowledge, as a legal 18 advisor to Sentinel reinsurance? 19 A I believe so. 20 Q And was one of the legal hats that he 21 was wearing when he approached you about the 22 insurance policy as a legal advisor to Highland		

51 1 Mr. Ellington was wearing when he approached you asserting the privilege. So I'm going to ask the about this insurance policy was as a legal advisor question, given the record that we have just heard to Highland Financial Partners? one more time and ask, did Scott Ellington, in A I believe so. words or substance, ever mention dealing with UBS Q And was one of the legal hats that as one of the business reasons for entering into Mr. Ellington was wearing when he approached you the insurance policy that we're here to discuss? with respect to this insurance policy was as a MR. TAYLOR: And, Andy, I'm going to legal advisor to all of Highland Financial make my objection but tell Mr. Dondero it's the 9 Partners subsidiaries? same objection, attorney-client privilege, but 10 A I -- I believe so. 10 subject thereto, given the foundation you laid, Q And was one of the legal hats that 11 that you can answer subject to my objection. 11 12 Mr. Ellington was wearing when he approached you A Okay. I'd like to get -- can I have an 13 with respect to the insurance policy a legal 13 uninterrupted 30-second moment to describe 14 advisor to Highland CDO Fund and its subsidiaries? 14 contextually and answer your question in a way A I -- I don't know if that was relevant 15 that I think connects everything together? If I 16 or if I had any -- I don't know if that was 16 can go on --17 relevant -- we've had a lot of names that are Q You can do that. I may go back and ask 17 18 similar. I'm not even sure what fund that is, per 18 my question again if you don't answer it, but go 19 ahead. 19 se, but I don't remember that one specifically. A Okay. MR. CLUBOK: By the way, just for the 20 21 record, I know it is hard to -- in the rough --21 We filed in October '19. In August of 22 this is CD -- as in David -- O Fund, CDO Fund. 22 '19, Ellington and I believed we had a handshake 23 THE WITNESS: Okay. Yeah, I --23 agreement with UBS to settle all outstanding 24 MR. CLUBOK: I think the court reporter 24 issues and get back to most favored nation status 25 heard me say CEO Fund, or at least that's the way 25 instead of our real estate group, that has been 50 52 1 it came out on the rough. growing aggressively and would have nice business Q So I just -- I want to make sure that reasons to do business with UBS -- instead of both you know, Jim, I'm saying Highland CDO Fund. Have firms not doing business together, we believed we you heard of that? had a handshake agreement with UBS that, Andy, you 5 A Yeah, I don't remember what fund that were involved in. And we believed that that 6 is. agreement was for 7 million of cash and 10 million Q Are you aware that UBS obtained a of future business. judgment against two funds that you formerly were And it wasn't that we thought those involved with? 9 monies were for justified damages to UBS for 10 A Are you talking about the recent 10 whatever cases were outstanding in the past 11 judgment? 11 because we truly believed we had paid for releases Q Yes, the recent judgment. 12 12 from UBS twice. We felt like we had paid 13 13 120 million in securities in 2008 or 2009, and 14 Q And who was that judgment against, do 14 then we felt via the 2015 Redeemer settlement --15 you know? 15 Redeemer and Credit Strat settlement of 72 million 16 A I do not. 16 or \$77 million, we felt like we had paid for the 17 Q Do you have any idea who are the 17 same releases from UBS twice, and we believed that 18 parties that are responsible for the 18 we had no liabilities whatsoever with UBS, and we 19 billion-dollar judgment that UBS obtained? 19 believed that the ongoing litigation was just a 20 A I do not. 20 cloud over the firm's doing business, and it was Q Getting back to Mr. Ellington, I will 21 worth us paying \$7 million of cash and 10 million 22 say that, at a bare minimum, if this conversation 22 of future business to put it behind us. 23 was privileged, it was a joint privilege and we 23 So our frame of mind in August of 24 have a representative of Highland Capital 24 2019 -- our frame of mind, meaning my frame of

25 mind and Ellington's frame of mind -- was that the

25 Management here, who have said they are not

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1 UBS claims were de minimis, but it was worth2 paying seven of cash and ten million of future

3 business to put it behind us.

The case had been dormant for an extended period of time. And when I say "an

6 extended period of time," it would be in the years

7 prior to 2019, incorporating when this reinsurance 8 policy was done at Sentinel. So the reinsurance

9 policy, when it was done at Sentinel, was done to

10 wrap up the HFP issues in aggregate, including all

11 legal, regulatory, compliance, tax, operating

12 issues, et cetera.

13 It wasn't done in anticipation of or14 trying to circumvent or prepare for some big UBS

15 judgment because at that period of time, we truly,

16 and, I think, UBS truly thought that their claims

17 were zero or de minimis because as recently as

18 August of 2019 we had a handshake agreement to

19 settle them for 7 million in cash and 10 million

20 of future business, which is de minimis in the

21 overall scheme of things and de minimis relative

22 to HFP or the Sentinel policy, et cetera.

23 So that's my overall testimony on the 24 subject, and I don't know much more beyond that.

Okay. Let me go back to the question I

1 world that reflect that supposed handshake

2 agreement?

A You know, Andy, I believe -- I know I

4 heard it from Seery or from UCC -- or not UCC --

5 from independent board members or from the

6 mediators last year, that there was a point in

7 time where you admitted that there was a handshake

8 agreement, but -- on those numbers at that time,9 but that was then and this is now, and now you

10 guys have a different view and you also have a New

11 York action.

12 And I -- so I don't have -- I don't

13 have anything written that's been put in front of

14 me, but I do believe there are people who will say

15 that you admitted that occurred. You were

16 involved with the Indian guy who came over from

17 London. You were involved with the meetings with

18 Ellington. I -- but I don't have anything in

19 writing to support it.

Q My question is, are you aware of any

21 document in the world that reflects the supposed

22 handshake agreement from August of 2019 that you

23 just described?

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4

24 A I do not. I do not have such a paper.

25 Q Are you aware of any such documents in

1 asked you and then we'll cover some of the things

2 you just said.

3 So, first of all, you're talking about

4 October of -- you said, "October of '19 we filed."

5 You mean you filed for bankruptcy in October of

6 '19?

A Highland filed, I think, on

8 October 16th of 2019.

Q Okay. You -- Highland Capital

10 Management filed for bankruptcy on October 16th,

11 2019, correct?

12 A Correct.

13 Q And you claim that in August of 2019,

14 just a few months before that, there was a

15 handshake deal with UBS to settle all outstanding

16 matters. Is that your claim?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And have you seen any documents that

19 support that claim?

20 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.

21 MR. CLUBOK: Withdrawn.

22 Q Have you seen any documents that

23 reflect that supposed handshake agreement?

24 A No, I have not.

25 Q Are you aware of any documents in the

1 the world, even if you don't have them, that

2 reflect the supposed handshake agreement from

3 August of 2019 that you just described?

A I do not. I do not have them and I do not have awareness of them.

not have awareness of them.

Q Now, you claim -- now, you claim that

7 Jim Seery told you that there had been an

8 agreement from August of 2019?

A No, no, no. And I'm not sure it was

10 Seery or somebody else under --

11 Q Let's start with Jim Seery, okay. You

12 said that -- so did Jim Seery, in words or

13 substance, ever tell you that there was a

14 handshake agreement in August of 2019 along the

15 lines that you've just described?

16 A It was -- my recollection is it was

17 either Jim Seery or somebody else on the

18 independent board --

19 Q Okay.

20 A -- said that subsequent, meaning in --

21 sometime in 2020, around the arbitration or

22 mediation, I believe, that you admitted to people

23 or to the arbitrators that there was an agreement

24 in principle but it hadn't been finalized or

25 documented, but that was then and this is now.

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Transcript of James Dondero

Conducted on May 10, 2021

1	Q	Okay.	The other independent board
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- 2 members were John Dubel and Judge Russ Nelms; is
- that right?
- A Yes.
- Q So it's your testimony that either Jim
- Seery or John Dubel or Russell Nelms told you that
- there had been a handshake deal in August of 2019
- along the lines of what you've just described. Is
- that your testimony?
- 10 A Yes.
- Q And you can't remember which of those 11
- 12 three supposedly told you this, correct?
- 13 A Correct.
- 14 Q Okay. Now, other than the supposed
- 15 conversation between one of these three directors
- 16 about this supposed deal, had you ever heard of
- 17 that supposed handshake deal before that time?
- 18 A Well, from Scott Ellington, who 19 negotiated with you and the guy from London.
- Q Okay. So Scott Ellington told you that
- 21 there was a handshake deal in August of 2019
- 22 whereby you would pay \$7 million and \$10 million
- 23 of additional business to resolve all the claims
- 24 that UBS had against Highland and the affiliated
- 25 funds? Is that your testimony?

58

- A Yes, correct.
- Q And did Mr. -- when did Mr. Ellington
- tell you this?
- A At or about when he came back from the
- meeting with you and the guy from India -- or you
- and the Indian guy from London.
- Q And this was in August of 2019?
- 8 A Yes.
- Q And did Mr. Ellington give you any more
- 10 specifics about this supposed handshake deal?
- A Those were the primary business points
- 12 I remember. I don't remember others.
- Q Did Mr. Ellington tell you who shook
- 14 hands on this deal, supposedly?
- A I don't know the name of the Indian
- 16 guy, but I know -- we do have the calendar
- 17 meetings that you attended, he attended, the
- 18 Indian guy attended, you know, et cetera, but I
- 19 don't know his name off the top of my head.
- Q Sorry, you have calendar meetings?
- 20 21 Where?
- A No, no, I mean, they were orchestrated
- 23 meetings, Andy. I mean, you, Scott, the guy from
- 24 UBS from -- I think he was from London. I don't
- 25 remember whether you had the meeting in New York

- 1 or London, but we do have calendar documentation
- of you guys' meeting, I'm sure we do.
 - Q And --
- A Andy, listen, I know I can't enforce a
- handshake agreement. You know, my life would be
- easier and we would have a nice residual value to
- Highland if I could force the handshake agreement
- 8 to be reality. I know I can't force it, but what
- 9 I'm trying to just lay the ground work of is that
- 10 we never viewed the UBS claims -- prior to you
- 11 getting the judgment out of the judge in New York,
- 12 we never viewed the UBS claims as material or
- 13 significant until then.
- Q Well, prior to then, you knew that if
- 15 UBS were to win its case, the consequences for
- 16 Highland could be catastrophic, correct?
- A No, we never viewed them as a material, 17
- 18 legitimate claim. We believe we had paid for the
- 19 releases twice before. I don't know what happened
- 20 in New York, and I haven't looked at the case. I
- 21 don't know what she actually awarded. I don't
- 22 know if we were properly represented or if it was
- 23 done. I don't know if it's appealable. I don't
- 24 know what the New York Circuits represents.
 - But I'm just saying that prior to that
- 1 judgment coming around, we did not believe, and I
 - don't believe you believed either in August of '19
 - that the UBS claims were material up until that
 - point. But congratulations on getting a big award
 - out of New York.
 - Q Your testimony is that prior to the
 - 7 time the judgment was awarded, you never believed
 - there was any possibility of UBS obtaining more
 - 9 than, say, \$7 million in total from its lawsuit
 - 10 that was pending in New York; is that correct?
 - A That's right, 7, 10, 5, 20, I mean,
 - 12 something de minimis, something nominal, you
 - 13 know -- I mean, there's always a risk that it --
 - 14 you know, just like, you know, we -- Highland went
 - 15 into bankruptcy and there were 110 million of
 - 16 claims that have now ballooned to 300, you know.
 - 17 So, you know, things can always go awry, but yes,
 - 18 that was our opinion.
 - Q So your opinion was there was never a
 - 20 realistic possibility of the total liability in
 - 21 connection with the UBS legal action in New York
 - 22 ever being more than, say, 10 or \$20 million,
 - 23 correct?
 - 24 A We thought it was something that --
 - 25 like any other potential or lingering claim from

61 63 1 UBS or Barclays or from Citibank or from you don't, I'll continue going. So it's up to 2 regulators or from tax authorities, you know, we 3 3 thought they were all normal course of business THE WITNESS: You know what, I have --4 that would be resolved for not material amounts of at 11:30 I need half an hour. I have got a 5 money, correct. half-hour meeting I can't move. Q And when you say "we," who is the "we" MR. CLUBOK: Okay. If that's the case, 6 7 in that sentence? Are you speaking on behalf of then let's keep going for another 11 minutes. 8 Highland Capital Management, are you speaking on 8 THE WITNESS: Yes. 9 behalf of Sentinel Reinsurance or on behalf of HFP MR. CLUBOK: Okay. Let's continue 10 going, then. 10 or all of the above? A All of the above. And I think that was Is that okay, Clay? 11 12 Ellington's view also, and that's why it made 12 MR. TAYLOR: Yes. 13 sense to transition an otherwise dead entity via 13 THE WITNESS: Yes. 14 the insurance policy. 14 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. Q What is the insurance -- okay. So 15 So -- we're going to just -- I just 16 getting back to my original question, what, if 16 want to show you a copy of the subpoena we issued 17 anything, did Mr. Ellington ever tell you, at the 17 for your testimony today. 18 time the insurance policy was being considered, 18 If you could put that up, and I believe 19 with respect to how it would impact the UBS 19 we'll mark it as Exhibit 23. 20 litigation? 20 (Deposition Exhibit 23 marked for 21 A I mean, like I said, there wasn't -- it 21 identification.) 22 wasn't a specific concern regarding UBS. It was 2.2. REMOTE TECH: Pardon me, Counsel, which 23 to handle the transition of an otherwise dead 23 tab is that? 24 entity that was illiquid that still had operating MR. CLUBOK: It was something 24 25 issues without a board and without any management 25 Ms. George just sent you, probably the last thing 62 64 1 team and without any way to pay anybody. It was a she sent you, two documents. One is the subpoena 2 way to transition all issues, but it wasn't and one is Mr. Dondero's response via counsel. 3 anything specific to UBS that I recall at the 3 REMOTE TECH: Please stand by. 4 time. 4 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, why are we -- just Q Okay. So when you -- and we jumped -for my curiosity, why are we starting with 23? 6 you jumped ahead and started talking about August MR. CLUBOK: Because we're 7 '19, but the policy was taken out, you know, continuing -- we've already marked some exhibits 8 approximately four years or so ago. So let's say in this action. So, you'll see, we'll go through 9 2017. 9 Exhibits 1 and 2 and 3 later, but they have 10 A Okay. 10 already been marked in previous depositions. Q Back in 2017, you're saying, the policy 11 MR. TAYLOR: Okay. 12 was not in any way specifically directed at UBS, MR. CLUBOK: We're just -- we're trying 12 13 correct? 13 to keep one set instead of starting every 14 A Correct. 14 deposition over at 1, which gets very confusing. Q Okay. And the policy back in 2017 was 15 15 Then you have, like, ten Exhibit 1s. 16 not issued with the UBS litigation in mind, 16 MR. TAYLOR: Understood. Thank you. 17 correct? 17 MR. CLUBOK: Sure. Q So here is Exhibit 23. This is Exhibit 18 A Yes, that's correct. 19 23 for this action. And Exhibit 23 is a copy of Q And in -- and Mr. Ellington never 20 the Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or 20 raised how the policy could impact the UBS 21 litigation when he gave you the business reasons 21 Objects or to Permit Inspection of Premises in a 22 for taking out the policy, correct? 22 Bankruptcy Case. Do you see that? 23 A Correct. 23 A Yes. 24 MR. CLUBOK: I think this might be a 24 Q And have you seen that subpoena before 25 today? 25 good time to take a break, if you want one. If

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65	67		
1 A I believe so.	1 MR. CLUBOK: No. I'll have to I'll		
2 Q And if I could have control of it,	2 assess during the break and see if I can get an		
3 Jordan.	3 estimate. We have another break that we have to		
4 REMOTE TECH: One moment, please.	4 take, too. What time is the hear is there a		
5 All right. Sir, I've given you	5 hearing still set for today?		
6 control. If you could just click on your screen.	6 MR. TAYLOR: 1:30, and yes.		
7 BY MR. CLUBOK:	7 MR. CLUBOK: Is that substantive or		
8 Q And so you say you believe you have	8 just a call?		
9 seen this Exhibit 23. Are you sure you have seen	9 MR. TAYLOR: We just have to dial in,		
10 it?	10 but both of us have to be there, both he and I.		
11 A I think it was stapled to wasn't it	MR. CLUBOK: I'm just saying, it's		
12 part of everything else that was sent over? But	12 supposed to be a short meeting, I take it?		
13 this is what covers discovery requests, right?	13 MR. TAYLOR: Actually, I think it might		
14 Q Correct.	14 be a little more substantive, but I'm not sure.		
15 A Yeah.	15 It's a docket call and we do have a motion for		
16 Q And, in particular, there was an	16 continuance which will be argued. So I'm just not		
17 attachment or a page that I have got on the screen	17 sure how long it's going to take, 30 minutes to an		
18 now. It starts with Roman numeral III. It says,	18 hour, my guesstimate.		
19 "Documents to be produced."	19 MR. CLUBOK: Okay.		
20 A Yes.	20 If I can have the control too, Jordan,		
21 Q And did you review Roman numeral III			
•	21 please. 22 Thank you.		
22 and the 12 categories of documents that you were	· ·		
23 under subpoena to produce?	Q Mr. Dondero, I've got up here an e-mail		
24 A Yes.	24 from Roland Schafer to Andrew Clubok and Katie		
25 Q And did you make an effort to locate	25 George, copying Clay Taylor and Bryan Assink, with		
66	68		
1 documents responsive to that subpoena?	1 the subject, "Dondero Subpoena."		
2 A Yes.	2 Have you seen this document before?		
MR. CLUBOK: And we're going to put up	A Yes.		
4 what we're going to mark as Exhibit 24. It is a	Q And it's been marked as Exhibit 24. In		
5 response that we received to the subpoena last	5 Exhibit 24 Mr. Schafer says that they have		
6 week.	6 completed their 'search of the e-mail/documents to		
7 REMOTE TECH: Please stand by.	7 which we have access. Keep in mind that		
8 (Deposition Exhibit 24 marked for	8 Mr. Dondero was exclusively on the HCMLP e-mail		
9 identification.)	9 until December 30th, 2020." He now has a NexBank		
10 Q It is a May 6th, 2021 e-mail from	10 e-mail account and beginning in late March 2021 he		
11 Schafer to Clubok.	11 moved to NextPoint e-mail. Or he had a NexBank		
MR. TAYLOR: We're not seeing that,	12 e-mail account, I should say, in the beginning of		
13 Andy.	13 late March 2021. And he said that the only		
MR. CLUBOK: It will just take a	14 documents are communications between yourself and		
15 second. I think Jordan is putting it up. There's	15 his law firm, and that's it, that in any way are		
16 a little bit of a lag with this process. I'm not	16 responsive to the subpoena request we issued.		
17 seeing it either, for what it's worth.	17 I'm paraphrasing, but that's the gist		
18 REMOTE TECH: Counsel, I apologize. I	18 of what it said, correct?		
19 have to get this downloaded real quick.	19 A Yes.		
20 MR. CLUBOK: No problem. Take your	20 Q And is that the case, that you have		
21 time. I was just explaining to Clay.	21 absolutely no access to or control over or ability		
22 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, for planning	22 to obtain any document that is in any way		
23 purposes while we wait, do you have any idea how	23 responsive to Exhibit number 23 other than		
24 late you're thinking, how many hours more you	24 communications with your attorneys?		
25 need?	25 A That is correct.		
	I .		

69 71 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. Let's see. Thank 1 I'm just saying as far as business or policies 2 you. Jordan, we can take that off the screen. that Sentinel issued or was part of, there were --3 Okay. there were multiple types. Q Let me just see if I can do a couple Q Right. But to be clear, Sentinel Re is more quick things here before your 12:30. affiliated with you, Jim Dondero, correct? Other than this --A If you define affiliate as similar MR. CLUBOK: Well, strike that. ownership, then yes, yeah. Q Other than the insurance policy that's Q Okay. And Sentinel Re did issue 9 the subject of this litigation that we have been policies to other entities that have overlapping 10 talking about, I think you said that you 10 ownership with you, correct? 11 understood that Sentinel had issued policies such 11 A Correct. 12 as D&O insurance and title reinsurance, correct? 12 Q And what were those entities that 13 A Yes. 13 Sentinel Re issued policies to that you were in Q For the D&O insurance, who were the 14 some way connected to? 15 insureds that you are aware of that Sentinel A Like I said, I believe they did some 16 Reinsurance issued policies for? 16 D&O insurance splitting on some of the private A I mean, some of them were completely 17 equity companies in the portfolio. 18 third party. I think some of them were the back 18 Q Like what? 19 end of related D&O insurance, you know, where A I don't remember, and I don't know 20 somebody like an Aon or somebody would take the 20 which ones they did, but I remember that was a 21 first, would take 60 percent of premium, would be 21 business line or a business purpose for a few 22 the face of the premium, and take the first X 22 years. 23 dollars of loss, and then Sentinel would take the 23 Q Is there any entity that you can name 24 back half. Or maybe it was the reverse, where 24 here today that Sentinel Reinsurance issued a 25 Sentinel would take the first piece of the loss 25 policy to that you have some beneficial interest 70 72 1 and Aon would take the back piece. But it was 1 in? 2 splitting -- it was splitting policies with some 2 A You'll have to ask Scott. Scott major carriers. Ellington is the right person to ask. Q Sorry. So when you use that phrase Q How about you? As you sit here today, 5 "completely third party," using that phrase, would are you aware of even a single entity that you can 6 you say that Sentinel Reinsurance is a completely think of -- are you claiming that you don't know a 7 third-party entity? single entity that Sentinel Re issued a policy to A No -- is it completely third party, no. that you have a beneficial ownership in? 9 But to be a bona fide reinsurer in Cayman, Cayman 9 A No, I don't remember. I don't remember 10 doesn't want reinsurance companies or banks to be 10 specifically. 11 captive or not be legitimately in the insurance or Q Do you know what proportion of Sentinel 12 banking business. So you have to have a portfolio 12 Re's business was issuing policies to entities 13 or a certain amount of legitimate insurance and 13 that had some sort of connection to you? 14 reinsurance from a variety of players. 14 A I do not. 15 Q Okay. But Sentinel Re is an affiliate 15 Q Okay. Well, look, it's 11:30. I will 16 of yours, correct? 16 say, we weren't told about this break. We also A Affiliate in terms of similar 17 obviously weren't told we were going to start a 18 half hour late. So we're going to -- it's going 18 ownership, I guess, you know. 19 to end up becoming a long day at a minimum. When Q If I just asked you generically, it's 20 Sentinel Re third-party -- how did you use the 20 is the meeting? 21 phrase? I'm sorry. If I said is Sentinel Re a 21 MR. CLUBOK: Let's go off the record. THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off record. 12:31. 22 completely third-party entity to you, Jim Dondero, 22 23 you would say no, that's not true, correct? 23 (A recess was taken.) A Well, I would say there is the 24 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On record. 1:11.

25

25 beneficial ownership that we have spoken of, but

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1 BY MR. CLUBOK:	1 have been natural for me even to sign the policy,
2 Q Okay, Mr. Dondero, Mr. Ellington	2 but if I did, I did not read it or have any
3 we've talked a little bit about what Mr. Ellington	3 specific knowledge of what it covered or didn't
4 told you about the insurance policy that was	4 cover.
5 ultimately issued by Sentinel Reinsurance that is	5 Q Did you sign the policy?
6 the subject of today's discussion. Do you	A I don't believe so. I have no
7 remember that discussion before our break?	7 recollection of that.
8 A Yes.	8 Q And you have no recollection of ever
9 Q Okay. At the time you signed first	9 actually reading the policy, correct?
10 of all, did you know that the	10 A Correct.
11 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.	11 Q Do you have a recollection of reading
12 Q Did you know the policy limit of that	12 any ancillary documents of the policy itself, like
13 policy that you signed off on?	13 any related documents that were about the policy
	14 or connected to the policy in some way?
15 that more clearly.	15 A No.
Q With respect to the Sentinel	16 Q At the time Sentinel Re issued the
17 Reinsurance policy that Mr. Ellington spoke to you	17 \$100 million policy that you approved, what was
18 about in 2017 and that you approved, did you know	18 the largest policy they had previously issued?
19 the policy limits when you approved it?	19 A I have no idea.
20 A Just in a most general sense that it	20 Q Had they ever previously issued a
21 was approximately 100 million. I don't know if	21 policy anywhere in the same magnitude as the
22 there were different amounts set for different	22 policy that's at issue here today?
23 items or occurrences. I just remember the policy	A I believe they have done multiple
24 being around 100 million bucks.	24 policies in the millions and tens of millions, but
25 Q And when did you how did you learn	25 I don't know the specifics.
74	76
that the policy was \$100 million?	Q Can you name one policy that they had
A I just remember the policy was there	2 done in the tens of millions prior to the policy
3 is really only it took lots of twists and	3 that's at issue that we have been discussing
4 turns, I believe, to get it through compliance and	4 today?
5 get it through the reinsurer. I just remember	5 A I wouldn't have specific knowledge.
6 there was a lot of back-and-forth, but I remember	Q Well, you said you believed they've
generally the policy was targeted to be around	7 done multiple policies in the millions and tens of
8 100 million.	8 millions. Did you just make that up, or is that
9 Q How did you learn that the policy was	9 based on something specific?
10 \$100 million? Did you learn it by reading it	10 A Well, like I said, I believe they did
11 reading the policy? Did you learn it because	11 some large title policy sharings that
12 Mr. Ellington told you? Did you learn because	12 Q You're saying under oath that you
13 compliance said something to you? How did you	13 believe they had previously issued a policy that
14 learn that the policy was \$100 million?	14 was at least \$10 million prior to issuing the one
15 A From Scott Ellington. You know, he	15 that we have been discussing today?
16 handled the interactions with compliance and the	16 MR. TAYLOR: Object to the form of the
17 reinsurer. I don't believe I ever saw the policy,	17 question. Okay.
18 nor was I involved in any of the conversations	18 A I don't know if
19 with the reinsurer or the or Highland	19 Q Let me ask it again.
20 compliance, that I remember.	20 Sir, are you testifying that you
21 Q But you approved the policy, correct?	21 believe that Sentinel Reinsurance had previously
22 A I approved the yes.	22 issued a policy that was at least \$10 million
23 Q And prior to approving the policy, did	22 issued a policy that was at least \$10 million 23 prior to issuing the policy that we have been
	22 issued a policy that was at least \$10 million

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1 subsequent, but I know I don't know. I believe	1 having gotten and underwritten significant
2 they have, on some of the big title insurance,	2 insurance in a lot of other companies and a lot of
3 like there was a big \$65 million title insurance	3 other places, it's a there's a lot of specifics
4 policy that they split with somebody. I don't	4 and a lot of highly negotiated parts to it, in
5 know if it was before or after. But my belief is	5 insurance in general, and I have no awareness of
6 they have or continue to do things in the millions	6 what this policy covered, didn't cover, under what
7 and tens of millions of dollars.	7 circumstances, et cetera.
8 Q I want you to focus on my question. I	8 Q At the time that you approved the
9 want you to there was a time when you approved	9 \$100 million insurance policy, did you understand
10 the issuance of this \$100 million policy, correct?	10 that part of what was covered by the policy was
11 A Yes.	11 legal liability of HFP and its subsidiaries?
12 Q And it was not a title insurance	12 A I didn't have specific knowledge of
13 policy, right?	13 what was covered but an understanding that there
	14 was some coverage of liability or outcomes.
15 Q It was a judgment insurance policy,	15 Q Okay. You understood that some of
16 correct?	16 the the \$100 million policy was not just for
17 A I don't know what it covered and what	17 legal fees and expenses, but it was also for some
18 it didn't cover.	18 liability or potential liability in litigation
19 Q Well, a \$100 million policy covered a	19 with the insureds, correct?
20 lot more than expected legal fees, correct?	20 A Yes, and that's about as far as it
21 A I believe it covered legal outcomes	21 goes.
22 also, but	22 Q And did you have any idea whatsoever,
Q Okay. So in addition to covering legal	23 when you approved the policy, as to what would be
24 fees, it also was intended to cover against	24 the circumstances whereby that payment obligation
25 judgments that would be entered against the	25 for legal liability would be triggered?
, ,	2 , ce
78	80
1 insureds, correct?	
	80
1 insureds, correct?	1 A I have no idea.
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81 83 80 million bucks. That's what I do know at that are twists and turns, or you specifically know there were twists and turns connected with this time. I do remember that. How they were accounted for or how much insurance policy? 4 of it was premium, how much of it was other A There are always twists and turns, and 5 consideration or whatever, I don't know what 5 especially if we're on both sides of a 6 the -- I don't know what the split or the 6 transaction, there's heightened compliance breakdown was. scrutiny and then there's also heightened Q Okay. We'll come back to that answer, 8 regulatory scrutiny. So there's -- A, there's 9 but, first, I want to start with the question I 9 always twists and turns, and there's definitely 10 asked you, which is, what was the premium on the 10 always significant twists and turns if we're 11 \$100 million insurance policy that you approved? 11 involved on both sides of it. A I don't know. Q And in this case you were involved on 13 Q So you started to say in your answer, 13 both sides of it, correct? 14 "I've heard," and then you caught yourself. What 14 A Yes. 15 had you heard in connection with this question I Q And, as a result, you had to get 15 16 your -- you had to disclose that involvement on 16 asked? A I was remembering back, and, again, 17 both sides to your compliance people in order to 18 this took lots of twists and turns, and I don't 18 get it approved? 19 even have a basis for saying "I heard." There 19 A Yes. 20 was -- there was -- I don't even have a basis 20 Q And who did you disclose that to in 21 for -- it was a matter of trying to bridge the 21 compliance? 22 illiquid assets to some liquidity and have some of A I wasn't directly involved, but I know 23 it be called a premium and some of it be called 23 Scott Ellington worked closely with Thomas Surgent 24 something else. But I don't even know what -- I 24 on it. 25 don't even know what else or if it was all called 25 Q And who was Thomas Surgent at that --82 84 1 premium. The policy took twists and turns through MR. CLUBOK: Or strike that. 1 2 the regulators and compliance. I don't know what Q What did Thomas Surgent do at that 2 3 the final structure of the policy was other than 3 time? 4 it was ultimately about \$100 million of coverage. 4 A He was our chief compliance officer. Q And these twists and turns that you say Q And how do you know that Scott 6 it took, is the entirety of your information about 6 Ellington worked closely with Thomas Surgent to that from Scott Ellington? get approval for this transaction with the A Yes. And -- but I wasn't involved in insurance policy in 2017? A He told me. And ultimately he had -- I 9 the twists and turns. At the time this wasn't 10 know he had to get Tom Surgent's sign-off on it, 10 that big of a deal. It was something that was 11 just trying to help transition a dead entity. 11 which I believe he did. Q Sorry, but you said there were twists Q And you said, "He told me." Do you 13 and turns. How did you know that there were 13 mean Scott Ellington told you? 14 twists and turns? 14 A Yes. A I just know there were. I mean, 15 Q And you -- how do you know that Scott 16 because what they were trying to do, they had to 16 Ellington had to get Tom Surgent's sign-off on 17 get it through both the regulators and Highland's 17 this policy being issued? 18 compliance department, so I -- there's always A I can say unilaterally for at least the 19 last 15 years we've never done a transaction that 19 give-and-take on their independent views of what's 20 the risk, what's the business purpose, what's a 20 we were on both sides of, that didn't have 21 fair structure, et cetera, et cetera. So that's 21 compliance sign off. 22 what I mean by "twists and turns." Q Okay. So your absolute policy at Q Yeah, but you say you just know there 23 Highland Capital is for any transaction where you 24 were twists and turns. You mean you were just 24 have a connection to both sides of the 25 imagining it or guessing or because there always 25 transaction, "you" meaning Jim Dondero, you always

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1 get compliance approval, correct?	1 Q How would Mr. Surgent have learned that
2 A Yes.	2 Sentinel Reinsurance was an affiliated entity?
3 Q And is that a policy that Scott	A He would have known as part of Scott
4 Ellington knows about?	4 Ellington's presentation to him proposing the
5 A Yes.	5 transaction.
6 Q Is that a policy that Thomas Surgent	Q What presentation are you talking
7 knows about?	7 about?
8 A Yes. It's an industry it's a	8 A Compliance builds they definitely
9 post-2008 Sarbanes or Dodd-Frank mandate. Chief	9 have folders and documentation on any transaction
10 compliance officers have the personal liability of	10 that they especially any significant
11 a C-suite executive starting in '08 in financial	11 transaction that they approve. They have to keep
12 firms.	12 written documentation for the regulators.
13 Q I see. So if Thomas Surgent did not	13 Q Sorry, but have you seen a presentation
14 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.	14 that Scott Ellington prepared to describe the
15 Q If Thomas Surgent well, you had to	15 transaction that he would have shared with
16 get Thomas Surgent's approval because you, Jim	16 Mr. Surgent?
17 Dondero, had beneficial ownership interest on both	
18 sides of the transaction, correct?	17 A I have not seen it. 18 Q Have you seen any presentation that
A Not because of more of control, not	19 Scott Ellington ever prepared related to this
20 beneficial ownership on the Sentinel	20 transaction?
21 side. You have control on both sides, but, yes,	A I have not.
22 it was appropriate to get compliance approval,	22 Q Did Mr. Ellington did were you
23 which I'm certain we did. I can't imagine I	23 ever
24 can't imagine there is any transaction where, any	24 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.
25 transaction over the last 15 years that would	25 Q How often do people use PowerPoints
86	88
1 involve affiliated entities that did not have	1 with you back in this time period to describe
	·
2 compliance approval.	2 transactions or make it easier to follow them?
 compliance approval. Q And in this situation Sentinel Re 	transactions or make it easier to follow them?A Often.
 compliance approval. Q And in this situation Sentinel Re insurance would have been an affiliated entity, 	 transactions or make it easier to follow them? A Often. Q Why?
 compliance approval. Q And in this situation Sentinel Re insurance would have been an affiliated entity, using the phrase the way you just used it, 	 transactions or make it easier to follow them? A Often. Q Why? A I mean, just often. I mean, there's
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1	Conducted o	11 143	10, 2021
1	89		91
1	MR. TAYLOR: Objection to form.	1	expected." Sorry
2	A If there was a significant investment	2	A Less than 7 or 8 of liquid assets or
3	being made, you know, per se, but, again, that	3	cash is what I would have expected. I would
4	wasn't the case in what we're talking about. And	4	when I say "preponderance," I would have guessed
5	I didn't see a PowerPoint on the insurance on	5	that 90 percent, or I would have expected
6	the insurance product overall.	6	90 percent or more was illiquid.
7	Q Well, you mentioned before that you	7	Q Sorry. So do you believe that it was
8	heard that there were 70 to 80 million dollars in	8	approximately 7 or 8 million dollars in liquid
9	illiquid assets?	9	assets that was transferred as part of this?
10		10	
11	, ,		were asking me my expectation of de minimis, and I
	of those assets were transferred to Sentinel		would say that I would have thought that the cash
13	Reinsurance?		and the liquid portion of the portfolio would have
14		14	been 10 percent or less.
	or part of the premium, and, again, part of the	15	
	transition to, you know, provide liquidity and		more than 10 percent, that's above what you call
17	some functionality.	17	de minimis in a transaction like this, correct?
18		18	
	to illiquid assets there were also liquid assets	19	expectations, but I don't have specific awareness.
	that were transferred to Sentinel Reinsurance as	20	
21	part of the premium?	21	Mr. Surgent, how would he have known that this was
22	A I don't remember that. I remember it	22	2 an affiliated transaction?
23	being almost entirely illiquid assets.	23	A He would have known from the
24	Q Were there any was there any cash	24	presentation, but he also has a high degree of
25	that was transferred as part of the premium	25	awareness of our corporate structures and our
	90		92
1	payments?	1	various entities, and it would have been part of
2	A I don't believe there was anything	2	his analysis and decision-making process. He
3	liquid or cash other than a de minimis amount.	3	wouldn't have approved it without knowing the
4	That's my macallaction But I navou say a		
	That's my recollection. But I never saw a	4	details and the counterparties.
5	reconciliation or a true-up. But it was never	4 5	Q And when compliance approves
5 6	reconciliation or a true-up. But it was never described to me as anything other than a		Q And when compliance approves transactions like this, is there a formal process
6 7	reconciliation or a true-up. But it was never described to me as anything other than a preponderance of illiquid assets.	5 6 7	Q And when compliance approves transactions like this, is there a formal process they go to? Is there a way that that approval is
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6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	reconciliation or a true-up. But it was never described to me as anything other than a preponderance of illiquid assets. Q What would a de minimis amount when you say "de minimis," you're in the past, I've learned that your view of de minimis is different than lots of people's view. So when you say "de minimis," do you mean less than 1 million, less than 10 million, less than 100 million? What's de minimus to you in this context? A I would guess that there would be less than 10 percent of any kind of liquid or cash assets. That would be my guess. That would be 10 percent or well, less than 10 percent. Q Okay. But if it was \$10 million in cash, you would consider that to be de minimis? A I was kind of using 10 percent as a cutoff. It was 7 or 8 7 or 8 or less of cash for illiquid assets is what I would have expected.	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Q And when compliance approves transactions like this, is there a formal process they go to? Is there a way that that approval is reflected? Is there a form they fill out? Is there a, you know, group of people they have to copy? Anything like that? MR. TAYLOR: Objection to the form. A I don't know the there is some formality to the process, but I don't know what it is. Q Did you ever see an approval by Mr. Surgent A No. Q of this projection? A I have not. Q Okay. So we got off on a little tangent here, but are you aware of Sentinel Re ever issuing any other judgment insurance policy in its history?

03 95 1 you know, but I don't know for sure. Are you saying that the main business Q Do you know -- by the way, I've called it a judgment insurance policy. Have you heard of purpose of this insurance policy was to do something other than act as a legal liability 4 a phrase called "after the event," or "ATE" insurance policy? 5 policy? 5 A Yes. A Yeah, I mean, like I said, I know Q And what is that other thing, or what 7 people sell claims and judgments, and after -- I 7 is the other function of this policy other than 8 mean, I have heard the term, yes. being a legal liability insurance policy? Q Okay. Would you describe this policy A To transition the residual legal, tax, 10 as an after the event policy? 10 authority, organizational responsibilities and 11 issues over an extended period of time faced by a 11 A No. 12 Q Why not? 12 dead entity that had been unwound as worthless for 13 A I mean, for all the reasons we talked 13 tax purposes and wasn't functioning in and of 14 about earlier. We viewed all the residual issues 14 itself. 15 at HFP to be things that would be handled in due 15 Q Could you be any more specific than 16 course and they needed liquidity and legal help or 16 that in terms of the purpose of this policy other 17 coordination. And the thought was, over an 17 than to serve as a legal liability insurance 18 extended period of time, things would be resolved 18 policy? 19 in normal course of business for not gigantic A I just said it, and I've said it, like, 20 amounts of issue. 20 five times, so I'm not going to say that again. 21 Q Right, but the insurance policy that 21 But for transition issues on residual legal, 22 you approved, I think you previously agreed it was 22 regulatory, tax, operating issues and that -- but 23 a -- it could be called a judgment insurance 23 there was a liability component to it also. But 24 policy, correct? 24 the expectation was that the liability stuff would A I mean, I think I resisted naming it 25 resolve itself over time, you know, partly with 94 96 1 that because I viewed it as much more than that, 1 legal fees and partly with maybe some settlements, 2 but that it did have some liability component to partly with, you know, time lapse on statute of 3 it, but I don't believe that that was the primary 3 limitations, you know, who knows. 4 purpose. And then but what also happens too is Q But you would agree that the policy was 5 things that you don't know or don't expect at the 6 a legal liability insurance policy, correct? 6 time you put a transition policy like this in A No, I don't want to say that. 7 place, there are things you don't know that end up Q I'm not asking if you want to say that. 8 coming up later, like -- you know, like whatever, 9 I'm asking if it's true. It's true that this 9 like HarbourVest in the Highland case wasn't 10 policy that you approved for -- with a 10 something that was known or thought about when 11 \$100 million potential value was a legal liability 11 filed. 12 insurance policy, correct? Q Did this policy cover the HarbourVest 12 A I'm saying my recollection is that it 13 case? 14 had a component of that to it, but that was not 14 A I'm sorry, I got off on a tangent. I 15 the full extent of it or the business purpose of 15 don't think HarbourVest is related to what we're 16 it, per se. 16 talking about today. Q You're saying the main business purpose Q Okay. So I want to talk about things 18 of this insurance policy was to be something other 18 that are related what we're talking about, and I 19 than a legal liability insurance policy; is that 19 want to know very specifically -- let's take it --20 correct? 20 just ask it again clearly. 21 Sorry, that question got garbled. You're saying -- would you agree the 22 22 main purpose of this policy was to serve as a A Yeah, there was --23 legal liability insurance policy? Would you agree Q Jim, I'm sorry, let me ask it again 24 because that question got garbled a little bit the 24 with that? 25 way I said it. 25 A No. I believe it was a component of

99 1 it. Q No, I understand. I'm going to come Q Okay. And so you have testified that the main point of issuing this insurance policy 2 back to the main purpose, but as a secondary purpose, in your view, you would agree that the was to assist in the transition of HFP. Is that a 4 insurance policy, when it was taken out, was fair characterization of what you said? 5 intended to cover legal liability to UBS for any of the affiliated entities that signed on to the 6 A Yes. Q And specifically how? How would this policy on the off chance that such liability 8 policy help -- how was it intended that this arose, correct? policy would help HFP transition other than by A Not particularly, but for all legal 10 being available to satisfy the legal liability HFP 10 liability issues in general. You have to 11 might have with respect to the UBS claims? 11 remember, there were big residual issues with A Again, because it would handle the 12 Barclays. There was big residual issues with 13 ongoing issues of an offshore Cayman entity that 13 Citibank. There were aggressive worthlessness 14 wasn't functioning but had a tail of legal, 14 deductions taken by some of the investors in there 15 regulatory, tax, operating issues, some of which 15 that could have created a tax audit or regulatory 16 were known and some of which were unknown. And it 16 issues -- not regulatory issues so much as tax 17 didn't have liquidity or staff to handle it on its 17 issues with the IRS. 18 own, and Sentinel would be providing that 18 And so it was meant to cover all those 19 things and address all those things if the 19 functionality. Q Sorry, how? How exactly? What 20 residual, dormant, dead HFP entity were attacked 21 specifically was anticipated when you signed off 21 by anybody. 22 on this policy that Sentinel would ever do other Q I'm going to come back to the other 23 than cover legal liability with respect to the UBS 23 things, okay, and I want to -- you've said a bunch 24 claim? 24 of other things that you claim the policy was 25 A It would manage all the things I just 25 intended to, but one of the things that the policy 98 100 1 talked about as transition items. 1 was intended to cover when you approved it was any Q What do you mean, "manage"? Like legal liability of HFP or its affiliates to UBS in 3 Sentinel was going to bring people over to manage, connection with the New York litigation, correct? 4 Sentinel was going to pay for something? What was A As long as we use the words "one of the 5 the specific thing that Sentinel was signing up to 5 things," not the main thing, not the primary thing 6 do under this policy other than satisfy legal not the focus of our attention at that point in 7 liability to UBS for its litigation in New York? 7 time. As long as it's just included among the A Again, the UBS litigation in New York 8 litany of other residual things that HFP was 9 wasn't viewed as likely or material at the time. 9 dealing with, yes. But I resist putting any --10 We went over that earlier. But let's say -- okay. 10 and I won't put any clarifier on it that makes it 11 HFP --11 seem like it was a main point of contention Q Wait, wait, sorry. Just to be clear 12 because we absolutely, at the time, viewed the --12 13 here, you're saying at the time this policy was 13 all the way up through August of '19 viewed UBS as 14 taken out there was no expectation of any material 14 not significant and not a material risk. 15 legal liability for any of your affiliated Q Yes, you've testified to that. So you 16 entities as a result of the UBS litigation, 16 say that this policy was not taken out with a 17 correct? 17 specific eye to UBS, correct? A Correct. I said it four times earlier. A Yes. 18 18 Q I understand. So getting back to the Q And you say that the main point of this 20 policy, so -- but by the way, would you agree that 20 legal liability insurance policy was not to cover 21 the policy was intended to cover the UBS 21 liability to UBS, correct? 22 litigation liability on the off chance, from your 22 A Correct. 23 perspective, that there should be liability? Q We'll come back to that. We'll come 23 A Again, it was a secondary not a main 24 back to the other purpose of the policy, but I 25 driver. The business purpose was for transition. 25 just want to focus on it is the case, though, that

101 103 1 you would agree that at least one of what you say 1 what I think Mr. Dondero is fighting on, so I'm 2 are many purposes of this insurance policy was to going to try to keep being more and more specific. 3 cover any legal liability of HFP or its affiliates Q Mr. Dondero, would you agree that at 4 to UBS in connection with the New York litigation, 4 least one purpose of the \$100 million insurance correct? policy that you approved was to cover liability to MR. TAYLOR: Andy, this has been asked 6 UBS in connection with the New York litigation on and answered numerous, numerous times at this behalf of HFP and its affiliates? point. A Yes. 8 MR. CLUBOK: Then it's a simple yes. Q Thank you. Okay. 10 Then I would like a simple yes to this question, 10 Now, let's talk about the other 11 Clay. It should be real simple. I'll ask the 11 purposes of the policy. Are you saying that the 12 question again, and I have never gotten a simple 12 policy also covered any losses that HFP or its 13 yes. I've gotten a lot of stuff that the judge 13 affiliates might suffer to Barclays after the 14 doesn't like. So I'm going to ask Mr. Dondero, as 14 issuance of the policy? 15 he said at the beginning, that he'd say yes if it A Again, I haven't seen it, but my belief 16 was a simple answer, and so I'm going to ask the 16 was that it was -- the business purpose was 17 question one more time and then I'll move on. 17 that -- for it to be broad based for things known Q Even though I understand you say that 18 and unknown and include a variety of tax and/or 19 there were other purposes of this insurance 19 legal dispute counterparties. 20 policy, you agree that at least one purpose of the Q But you specifically said Barclays. 21 insurance policy that you approved, that we have 21 That's why -- I didn't -- that came from you, as 22 been talking about today, was to cover any legal 22 an example. And I don't know if you're just 23 liability of HFP or its affiliates to UBS in 23 making that up as an example or if you're saying 24 connection with the New York litigation, correct? 24 that you specifically, when you approved it, MR. TAYLOR: I'm just going to object 25 understood the policy to cover potential liability 102 104 1 to the form. 1 with Barclays. And that's what I'm trying to get A Okay, Andy, I can't say yes because of at. I'm going to ask -- you threw out different 3 what you threw in there on the clarifiers at the names, and I'm trying to just see if you were just 4 end that I don't know the answers to. I don't throwing those out up against the wall or if you 5 know what the terms and conditions and trigger were actually saying, I recall that those were 6 points and I don't know which entities of HFP are things the policy was intended to cover. 7 included in the policy or not included in the So let me -- with that in mind, I'll 8 policy. I don't know. But the general purpose just ask you. When you signed off on this 9 was to cover whatever legal disputes and \$100 million insurance policy, did you believe 10 resolutions HFP would be subject to. I mean --10 that it would cover liability that HFP or its MR. CLUBOK: Okay, Clay, that's why the 11 affiliates might face to Barclays in the future? 12 question has not been asked and answered. Every A Yes, to any claim known and unknown. I 13 time I've asked it, there has been a different 13 mean, that -- the history of Highland over the 14 qualification. I'm going to explore this until I 14 last 15 years is resolution of a dispute is not 15 get a direct answer, okay? I'm going to ask you 15 necessarily as much resolution as we thought it 16 not to keep objecting "asked and answered." I 16 was. You know, like I said, UBS -- we thought we 17 will show that clip to the judge, and it's -- I 17 had them settled in '08 and then we paid again in 18 can't stop Mr. Dondero from qualifying things, but 18 2015, and you're back again, right? And then 19 I'm allowed to keep asking until I get an answer 19 Redeemer, we settled with them in 2015, all kinds 20 to my question. 20 of accolades and whatever, and then they came back MR. TAYLOR: Andy, here is just 21 to us with arbitration and award and forced us 22 something for your consideration. You keep on 22 into bankruptcy on the same issues, you know. 23 throwing in the word "any" --So it's -- the settlements that we had 23 MR. CLUBOK: I understand. I've asked 24 with Barclays, the settlements that we had with

25 Citibank all could have potentially come back

25 different questions, and I'm getting closer to

107 1 similarly because their settlements touched HFP A That's my recollection. 1 2 also, just like your guy's settlements touched Q And that's -- did you ever look at the 3 HFP. assets that were transferred? Q I'm going to ask you to please listen A No. Q Did you ever review the fair market 5 to the questions I ask and answer the questions 5 value of the assets that were transferred to buy 6 that I ask, if you can. Are you saying that when you signed off 8 on this \$100 million insurance policy, you A No. That is how it was presented to me, that it was 70 or 80 million of fair market 9 believed that it would cover any liability from 10 value. 10 any source against HFP going forward, known or Q Presented to you by Scott Ellington? 11 unknown? 11 A That was my belief that it was -- the 12 13 business purpose was primarily, yes, a transition 13 Q Okay. And when you approved that 14 transaction -- I'm trying to figure out what you 14 policy. Q And so, from the time that you signed 15 believed you were buying with all those assets 16 this policy through today, if HFP or any of its 16 that you were moving from one affiliated entity to 17 affiliates have any legal liability, your 17 another, okay. And by the way, was it an arm's 18 expectation is that it would be covered by this 18 length transaction? 19 \$100 million policy, correct? A Yeah, I -- ultimately getting it A I didn't sign the policy, and the 20 through compliance and the regulators, I think 21 insurance policy, whatever it says, it says, and 21 that's one of the standards that compliance and 22 who it covers under what circumstances it will 22 the regulators use, is that it's a 23 cover or dispute, but I don't know the specifics. 23 market-structured -- a market-level transaction. 24 Q Okay. Mr. Dondero, so first of all --24 That's the whole purpose of compliance when you 25 A The answer is I don't know. If you 25 have affiliated entities. 106 108 1 don't like my clarifier, then my answer is I don't Q Did you make any effort to ensure that 1 2 know. it was an arm's length transaction or the Q Well, my questions have been from the equivalent of an arm's length transaction? 4 beginning, when you signed off -- first of all, A No. Again, that would have been the you claim you didn't sign the policy, right? responsibility of compliance and the regulators. A I don't believe I did, no. Q Did you ever do a market test to see Q Okay. But you at least know that you what the fair market value of the assets were? 8 signed off on the policy. You authorized it to be A I did not, but I'm very comfortable 9 signed, correct? 9 organizationally the fair market values at any 10 A Yes. 10 point in time are accurate and that's been proven Q Okay. And when you authorized the 11 for 15 years. 12 signing of a policy for \$100 million and the Q Sorry, the fair market values that 13 transfer of roughly that amount or more in assets 13 Highland retains on its books are accurate? 14 from other affiliated entities --A Very accurate. They are robustly 15 MR. TAYLOR: Object to that 15 tested, verified, generally third parties. They 16 characterization of the evidence. 16 are documented. I'm very comfortable our fair Q Okay. Well, would you agree that over 17 market values on liquid, less liquid, and illiquid 18 \$100 million in fair market value was transferred 18 securities, whatever buckets 1, 2 and 3, are 19 to Sentinel Re in consideration for this policy? 19 accurate. 20 A My recollection is it was between 70 20 Q So if the documents --21 and 80. 21 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that. Q You said before -- you think the total O So where would we go to find documents 23 fair market value of the assets transferred to 23 that reflect the fair market values of the assets 24 Sentinel Reinsurance for this policy was between 24 that were transferred at the time of the 25 70 and 80 million dollars? 25 transfers?

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109	111
1 A That would all be at Highland.	1 liability with respect to other entities other
2 Q Where?	2 than UBS, Barclays, Citibank that we have not
3 A We keep detailed valuation records	3 specifically mentioned?
4 going back 20 years.	A Yeah, or tax authorities or yes. I
5 Q In what system?	5 mean, that just that was part and parcel of it,
6 A I don't know.	6 but, again, the terms of the payouts and the I
7 Q Who would know?	7 have no knowledge of. And I don't know if they
8 A I don't think Highland could be	8 are specifically addressed or ignored. I don't
9 compliant as a registered investment advisor and	9 know how UBS is handled in the policy. I do not
10 not be able to produce those to you.	10 have detailed knowledge on the specifics.
11 Q Who would be able to most easily get	Q When was the last time you thought
12 those documents, if they are still there, if you	12 about the policy before you got the before you
13 know?	13 heard about this adversary proceeding?
14 A DSI is functioning as the back office	14 A I hadn't thought about it at all. I
15 of Highland, as far as I understand it.	15 wasn't even sure the New York action applied,
16 Q And there would have been fair market	16 honestly.
17 values for each of the assets that were	Q Other than legal liability for either
18 transferred to pay for the insurance policy?	18 attorneys' fees or bad outcomes of litigation, you
19 A Yes.	19 have repeatedly used a phrase about "liquidity for
20 Q And we could rely on those fair market	20 transition." I'm trying to understand,
21 values in the Highland books if we wanted to know	21 specifically under what circumstances did you
22 the fair market value of the assets that were	22 think Sentinel Re would ever pay money to handle
23 transferred?	23 something that was not lawyer fees or legal
24 A I believe so.	24 liability under this policy?
25 Q So when you getting back to what you	A Well, lawyers' fees, essentially, you
110	112
1 knew at the time, you approved this transaction.	1 know, any other operating or regulatory costs or
2 A Right.	2 defenses, and then bona fide settlements and then,
3 Q Did you believe that you were	3 you know, but Andy, I know you know the
4 purchasing liability insurance for all known and	4 insurance world. Bona fide settlements are
5 unknown claims of Highland Financial Partner and	5 bona fide settlements are getting paid on a
6 its subsidiaries?	6 more that's a whole industry subset of its own,
7 MR. TAYLOR: Objection to the form of	7 you know.
8 the question.	8 Q We'll come back to that. What do you
9 A I didn't have specific knowledge beyond	9 mean by "operating or regulatory costs"? What
10 that it was a transition policy to cover to	10 does that mean?
11 provide the liquidity and the management necessary	11 A If there's any regulatory costs for
12 to deal with the conflicts and then probably net	12 operating in the Caymans, if there is any, like I
13 of those amounts to provide some amounts of	13 said, tax questions on or challenges on the
14 liability insurance given certain circumstances or	14 worthlessness deduction when HFP was unwound, I
15 certain events.	15 you know, all those kinds of things.
16 Q Did you believe that you were buying	Q You believe that this policy you're
17 liability insurance with respect to the Barclays	17 buying would pay for costs associated with
18 claims that were known or unknown at the time?	18 challenges to the worthless tax deduction that you
19 A Generally, yes.	19 took when HFP was declared insolvent?
20 Q Did you believe you were buying legal	20 A Again, I believe there was a transition
21 liability insurance with respect to the Citibank	21 policy. That's how it was presented to me.
22 claims against HFP and its subsidiaries that were	22 Q Are you saying that you believe the
23 known or unknown at the time?	23 policy that you approved buying, that we have been
A Generally, yes. 25 Q Did you believe you were buying legal	24 discussing today, was expected to pay costs 25 associated with challenges to the worthless tax
Q Did you believe you were buying legal	

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113	115
1 deduction that you took when HFP was declared	1 that.
2 insolvent?	2 Q You remember that you were maybe
3 A Yes.	3 without knowing the specific numbers, you remember
4 Q And did Sentinel Re ever pay any costs	4 you faced significant consequences if the
5 associated with that worthless tax deduction that	5 worthless tax deduction you took in connection
6 you took?	6 with HFP was disallowed by the IRS, correct?
7 A I do not know. The administering of	7 MR. TAYLOR: Same objections.
8 the policy and the payment of expenses and legal	8 A Yeah, I have no awareness of that,
9 fees, Scott Ellington would have an awareness of	9 Andy. And, listen, the way I understand worthless
10 that. I do not.	10 deductions is it's really a declaration at a time
Q By the way, that worthless tax	11 and point that the entity is worthless and no
12 deduction provided a significant tax benefit to	12 longer exists, okay, as a functioning entity. If
13 you personally, correct?	13 the tax authorities overturn that position, it
14 A I don't know. I wasn't a majority	14 doesn't mean you never get that tax deduction for
15 owner in HFP. "A significant tax" it was a	15 the loss that's occurred. It just means you get
16 complete wipeout economically, and there was	16 it later.
17 some but those are bona fide the	17 So it's not it's a timing issue more
18 worthlessness deduction for a dead entity is a	18 than anything else. And, again, it's in no way
19 bona fide it's a bona fide tax deduction, it's	19 improper, but I don't remember it being a decision
20 a bona fide policy. But a lot of times the IRS	20 variable as you're describing it.
21 questions it. It doesn't mean that it was in any	21 Q You knew that everyone who was
22 way inappropriate.	22 potentially going to be impacted, if the worthless
23 Q But if UBS had lost its litigation	23 tax deduction was disallowed, would potentially
24 against HFP and its subsidiaries, that worthless	24 have a claim directly against you as the decision
25 tax deduction would have had to be reversed,	25 maker of HFP; is that true?
114	116
1 correct?	1 A No, that's not true.
2 A I have no knowledge or awareness of	2 Q Scott Ellington repeatedly warned you
3 that.	3 that there would be significant tax consequences
4 Q You were told specifically that there	4 if the worthless tax deduction were to be
5 would be a significant tax liability for you and	5 disallowed by the IRS, correct?
6 others if HFP and its subsidiaries were to prevail	6 MR. TAYLOR: Object to the form of the
7 in the New York litigation against UBS; isn't that	7 question.
8 true?	8 A I don't remember that, Andy. And just
9 A I don't remember that at all.	9 because you're a tax partner doesn't make you
10 Q You remember that you were on the hook	10 liable. You do things in good faith, and it ends
11 for over \$50 million personally if that worthless	11 up being a timing issue and the IRS delays the
12 tax deduction was overturned by the IRS, correct?	12 deduction. That doesn't necessarily that
MR. TAYLOR: Objection to the form.	13 doesn't necessarily create any liability.
14 A I have no specific knowledge on any of	14 Q Scott Ellington repeatedly warned you
15 this, Andy.	15 that if HFP were to win the litigation against
16 Q I should say	16 UBS, there would be significant tax consequences,
17 A You can refresh	17 correct?
18 Q you remember that you were on the	MR. TAYLOR: Object to the form of the
19 hook for over \$50 million personally if the	19 question.
20 worthless tax deduction was disallowed by the IRS,	A I don't remember any of that, Andy.
21 correct?	21 Q Scott Ellington tried to get you to
22 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Lack of	22 settle the UBS case many times, right?
23 foundation and calls for speculation.	23 A I I mean, again, I remember the
24 A I don't have a you can try and	24 August '19 stuff. I don't remember many times
25 refresh me on it, but I have no recollection of	25 before that. I don't remember a bid ask before

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117 1 that.	119
	Q Well, do you know who the DAF owes that 32 million to today?
	4 Q You have no clue whatsoever as to 5 where as to who is the current holder of that
1 44 4 40	
6 established? 7 A Yes.	6 \$32 million note; is that correct? 7 A I do not. I'm willing to be refreshed,
8 Q Roughly how much does it have in assets	8 but I don't know. I don't remember.
9 right now?	9 Q Who is responsible for making payments
10 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, that's not at all an	10 on behalf of the DAF of that \$32 million note?
11 appropriate line of questioning, and he does not	11 A The I don't know, the DAF trustee, I
12 have to answer it.	12 guess.
13 MR. CLUBOK: It is, and I'll link it up	13 Q Who is the DAF trustee?
14 here in a second.	14 A Grant Scott.
15 Q It certainly has well, let me put it	15 Q And does Grant Scott have full
16 this way: You know that HFP and CDO Fund	16 authority to pay off that \$32 million note?
17 collectively had a \$32 million note payable from	17 A I believe ultimately.
18 DAF that it transferred to Sentinel as part of	18 Q Do you have any say in the matter?
19 purchasing the insurance policy; isn't that true?	19 A I think we're investment advisor for
20 A I believe there is a note in there from	20 the DAF.
21 the DAF of 32 millionish, but I don't remember how	21 Q Who is "we" in that sentence?
22 it got there.	22 A I believe that's a good question.
23 Q And did the DAF have enough money to	23 Probably Sky probably SkyBridge, I'm guessing,
24 pay that \$32 million?	24 has a shared services asset management agreement
25 A It doesn't have the liquidity, but it	25 with the DAF, replacing what used to be done by
118	120
1 has more than 100 million in assets at this point.	1 Highland.
Q Okay. The DAF has more than	Q When was that?
3 \$100 million in assets. Has it made any payments	A That started when everybody moved
4 on this \$32 million note?	4 well, Seery terminated all the agreements, I
5 A I do not know.	5 think, at the end of February. When everybody
Q Who owns the \$32 million note now?	6 moved over here at the end of February or March,
7 A I do not know.	7 the bank and the DAF and other entities redid
8 Q It was held by HFP and CDO Fund	8 their shared services agreements with SkyBridge.
9 previously, correct?	9 Q And you control SkyBridge, correct?
MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.	10 A No, I do not.
Q It was held by either HFP or CDO Fund	11 Q What ownership do you have in
12 prior to the Sentinel Reinsurance policy purchase,	12 SkyBridge?
13 correct?	13 A I believe at the moment it's zero and
14 A I believe so.	14 we're trying to figure out how best to construct
Q And you understand that it was	15 the ownership there.
16 transferred to Sentinel Reinsurance as part of the	16 Q Who owns SkyBridge?
17 insurance policy, correct?	17 A The employees at the moment.
18 A It would make sense that that would	18 Q Which employees?
19 have been part of the illiquid securities or	19 A I don't know. We're doing an
	20 organizational restructure analysis of how that
20 illiquid asset bucket.	
21 Q And you know it has been transferred	21 entity should be held. And I haven't seen the
21 Q And you know it has been transferred 22 since, right?	21 entity should be held. And I haven't seen the 22 final recommendation yet.
21 Q And you know it has been transferred 22 since, right? 23 A I don't have I don't have the	21 entity should be held. And I haven't seen the 22 final recommendation yet. 23 Q Who is controlling SkyBridge today?
21 Q And you know it has been transferred 22 since, right?	21 entity should be held. And I haven't seen the 22 final recommendation yet.

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Transcript of James Dondero Conducted on May 10, 2021

1 Waterhouse and some combination of Frank	1 all for legal liability insurance, after the event
2 Waterhouse, J.P., probably Isaac and Ellington,	2 insurance or judgment insurance?
3 but I don't want to say for sure Isaac and	3 A I know they evaluated a lot of the
4 Ellington because I don't know.	4 policies. I didn't have knowledge of the specific
5 Q And you are saying that you have no say	5 alternative policy that was done like this. I did
6 whatsoever in SkyBridge as of today?	6 not.
7 A Other than as a client, I'm not an	7 Q And did you know they had ever
8 owner.	8 evaluated a legal liability insurance policy, an
9 Q What do you mean, "other than as a	9 after the event policy or a judgment insurance
10 client"?	10 policy prior to the time they issued this
11 A Well, other than as I'm the chairman	11 \$100 million policy that you authorized?
12 of NexBank and NexBank is a client, and I'm the	12 A Yes, I believe they have and they do to
13 president of NextPoint and NextPoint is a client.	13 this day.
14 Q Does SkyBridge have full authority to	14 Q Okay, but I didn't ask you about this
15 make a decision as to whether and if or when the	15 day. Stay with me on the questions. It's back in
16 DAF pays off the \$32 million note that used to be	16 2017. When you approved the policy, name one
17 held by HFP and CDO Fund?	17 policy that they had ever evaluated that was a
18 A I don't know. I don't know I don't	18 legal liability policy, an after the event policy
19 know where the responsibilities begin and end on	19 or a judgment insurance policy prior to the time
20 the asset management agreement.	20 that they issued this \$100 million policy that you
21 Q So this is a long detour from when I	21 authorized in August 2017?
22 first asked you about Sentinel and whether they	22 A I wouldn't have specific knowledge, but
23 had ever issued any other legal liability	23 I believe they were or they did evaluate
24 insurance policies or after let me ask it this	24 others.
25 way: I will represent to you that this policy has	25 Q Based on what?
122	124
1 sometimes been called a legal liability insurance	1 A Their high awareness of this kind of
2 policy, sometimes it has been called an after the	2 policy, how to structure it, how to get it through
3 event policy, sometimes it's been called a	3 the regulators, how to get it through compliance,
4 judgment insurance policy.	4 et cetera. Because I think they had reviewed and
5 I'm going to say other than this policy	5 looked at numerous other policies that were like
6 that we have been discussing today, has Sentinel	6 this policy.
7 Reinsurance ever issued any policy that you would	Q But as far as you know, they never
8 characterize as a legal liability insurance	8 issued one like this policy before then, correct?
9 policy, an after the event policy or a judgment	9 A I don't know.
10 insurance policy?	Q And as far as you know, you're unaware
11 A I don't know.	11 of them ever actually issuing a policy like this
12 Q When you authorized the issuance	12 one prior to this policy being issued, correct?
13 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, can you come to a	13 A Correct. I don't have specific
14 logical stopping point? We're going to have to	14 awareness.
15 hop off here really soon and get relogged in to	15 Q And you before had said that you
16 the court system.	16 believe there had been a title insurance policy of
17 MR. CLUBOK: Yeah, that's fine. I'll	17 up to \$65 million that was issued that at least
18 go no more than about five minutes or so and I'll	18 they had some role in. Are you saying that that
19 find a logical stopping and we'll take a break,	19 was before August '17, that \$65 million title
20 maybe five or ten, but not ten to eleven five	20 insurance policy you mentioned before? Or do you
21 to seven, or less.	21 know?
12.2 O Mr. Dondero, when you authorized the	
22 Q Mr. Dondero, when you authorized the 23 issuance of this policy for \$100 million, at that	22 A I don't remember the dates, but it
23 issuance of this policy for \$100 million, at that	22 A I don't remember the dates, but it 23 it was it was on or around that time because it
	22 A I don't remember the dates, but it

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1 \$65 million title insurance policy roughly?	1 the day-to-day to know.	
2 A I don't know. A few million a	2 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. Let's go ahead and	
3 couple few million bucks. Oh, no, wait a minute.	3 take our break now. Let's convene five minutes	
4 I'm sorry. Excuse me. Let me it was a	4 after the Court breaks. Does that work, Clay?	
5 \$65 million premium. It was on the Cheniere	5 MR. TAYLOR: Sure. Let's go off the	
6 facility in Houston. It was a	6 record.	
7 multi-billion-dollar title policy on their	7 MR. CLUBOK: Oh, sure.	
8 \$12 billion facility outside Houston. The premium	8 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off record. 2:22.	
9 was 65 million, and we shared in some of the	9 (A recess was taken.)	
10 premium with some other reinsurance companies, but	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On record. 4:35.	
11 the gross amount was in the billions.	11 (Deposition Exhibit 25 marked for	
12 Q Roughly how much of the 65 million	12 identification.)	
13 premium went to Sentinel Reinsurance, roughly?	13 BY MR. CLUBOK:	
14 A I don't know. But for each dollar of	14 Q Mr. Dondero, we're about to show you a	
15 premium, it was probably 20 times as much title	15 document that's been marked as Exhibit 25. It is	
16 insurance face.	16 a document that has got "Sentinel Reinsurance,	
17 Q Okay. But what was the face of the	17 LTD" at the top, and it's a cover letter that	
18 title insurance that Sentinel Reinsurance issued?	18 says, "Via e-mail" and attaches what the cover	
19 I'm not asking what all the other insurers or	19 e-mail says are "the revised unaudited financial	
20 reinsurers	20 statements of Sentinel Reinsurance as of, and for	
21 A I don't know.	21 the year ended, December 31, 2016."	
22 Q My original question to you was, prior	22 MR. TAYLOR: We can't see that.	
23 to issuing this \$100 million face value policy,	23 MR. CLUBOK: I understand. We're going	
24 were you aware of any other policy that Sentinel		
	 24 to make it more accessible here, hopefully. Okay. Q Can you see the first page now of 	
25 Re had issued with a liability of at least	25 Q Can you see the first page now of	120
1 10 million? You mentioned the 65 one, but now	1 Exhibit 25?	128
2 you're saying you don't really know how much of it	_	
3 was Sentinel Re. So I'm just asking you to be	3 Q And Exhibit 25 is a document. It's	
4 to name any policy that you actually are aware of,	4 entitled "Sentinel Reinsurance LTD." It's a	
5 or tell us that you're not really aware of any,	5 letter that on its face says was sent via e-mail	
6 that were for more than \$10 million that Sentinel	6 to Mr. J.P. Sevilla at SAS Asset Recovery Limited	
Re had issued prior to issuing this \$100 million	7 from Peter Kranz, CPA, at Beecher Carlson	
8 policy that you approved in August of 2017.	8 Insurance Services, LLC, as Manager for Sentinel	
9 A I'm going to stay with the Cheniere	9 Reinsurance, Limited.	
10 title policy as my answer, but I don't know the	Do you see that?	
11 specifics.	11 A Yes.	
12 Q And you have no idea how much of that	12 Q Now, first of all, you know who J.P.	
13 Cheniere title policy was on Sentinel Re's hands,	13 Sevilla is, right?	
14 correct?	14 A Yes.	
15 A Correct.	15 Q In August 2017 he worked at Highland	
16 Q And do you know that that was issued	16 Capital Management?	
17 prior to August 2017?	17 A Yes.	
18 A I believe on or about, but I don't know	18 Q And he wore several hats, I take it,	
19 the dates.	19 for different entities?	
20 Q Is there any other example you can	20 A Yes.	
21 think of that even might be a policy that would be	21 Q And one of them was for an entity	
22 10 million or more than Sentinel Re has ever	22 called SAS Asset Recovery Limited?	
23 issued other than potentially its involvement in	23 A I can't say for sure whether he worked	
24 the Cheniere title insurance?	24 there or not or was just providing services. I	
25 A I no, I wasn't involved enough in	25 don't know.	

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Q Was there a shared services agreement	1 that's like I was saying, I don't know if he's
2 between SAS Asset Recovery Limited and Highland	2 representing SAS. I don't know if it's I don't
3 Capital Management?	3 know what SAS I don't know what Sentinel's
4 A Yes. I mean, it might not have been	4 relationship or shared services with SAS is. I
5 formal but either informal or formal, but it was	5 don't know if Sentinel owns a piece of SAS. I
6 one of the entities that I believe Highland	6 don't know the ownership structure and I don't
7 provided services for.	7 know what hat J.P. is wearing when he's, you know,
8 Q Do you have an ownership stake in SAS	8 part of this correspondence.
9 Asset Recovery Limited?	9 Q Were the activities of SAS Asset
10 A I don't believe so.	10 Recovery Limited known to those at Highland
11 Q What is SAS Asset Recovery Limited?	11 Capital Management?
12 A I think they primarily do litigation	12 A They would be known to Scott Ellington.
13 financing. Litigation financing, litigation joint	13 I don't know who else besides Scott Ellington
14 venture stuff around the around the world.	14 would know the cases that SAS was involved in.
15 Q Who owns SAS Asset Recovery Limited?	15 Q How do you know that Scott Ellington
16 Or who is the beneficial owner of it, I should	16 would know about SAS Asset Recovery?
17 say.	17 A It was one of the entities he was
18 A I don't know.	18 responsible for.
19 Q You have no idea whatsoever as you sit	19 Q How do you know that?
20 here today?	20 A I I just know it.
21 A Yes, that's correct.	21 Q You were did you know when SAS was
22 Q Isn't it true that	22 set up?
23 A I would let me just say that it's	23 A No.
24 something you could put on the list for us to get	24 Q So do you know anything else about SAS
25 you that information, if it's appropriate for us	25 Asset Recovery other than Scott Ellington was
130	132
1 to get you that information, but I don't know the	1 involved in it and it was a litigation funder, as
2 answer.	2 far as you know?
3 Q Who would know the answer?	A Yeah, I mean, that's really all I know
4 A I don't know, but I would find out.	4 about it.
5 Q You have absolutely no idea who has any	5 Q Did you ever receive the financial
6 ownership interest in SAS Capital SAS Asset	6 statements of Sentinel Reinsurance?
7 Recovery Limited; is that what you're saying?	7 A No. I'm curious what when you flip
8 A Correct. It was a complex structure,	8 the page, I'm curious what it's going to say. But
9 and I don't remember how it shook out at the end	9 this was early earlier on, I guess.
10 of the day. But like I said, I'm not being	Q So all right. Let's flip the page.
11 evasive. If it's you know, give us some time.	11 The second page of Exhibit 25 is the table of
12 If it's appropriate for us to give you the answer,	12 contents. The next page, which is also Bates
13 we can get the answer. I just don't know.	13 labeled, ending with the digits 1069, is the
14 Q Did you ever have any control over SAS	14 Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited, Management
15 Asset Recovery Limited in any way?	15 Discussion and Analysis, dated December 31st,
16 A I don't believe so. I don't know	16 2016, or, I suppose, as of December 31st, 2016.
17 throughout its history, but I don't believe so.	MR. TAYLOR: Andy, could you blow that
18 Q Was Scott Ellington a beneficial owner	18 up a little? It's a little bit hard for us to see
19 of SAS Asset Recovery Limited?	19 here.
20 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.	20 Q Can you see it, Jim?
21 A I don't know.	21 A It's tough. My vision is not so good
22 Q Why would SAS Asset Recovery Limited	22 either.
	23 Q Is that better?
23 have been getting the unaudited financial	25 Q is that better:
23 have been getting the unaudited financial 24 statements of Sentinel Reinsurance?	24 A That's better, yeah.

	1 May 10, 2021	
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1 that "For the 12 months ended December 31st, 2016	Q When you approved the \$100 million	
and 2015, Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited had pretax	2 policy in August 2017, did you know what the	
3 income of \$4.2 million and \$5.1 million,	3 balance sheet of Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited	
4 respectively." Do you see that?	4 showed?	
5 A Yep.	5 A No.	
6 Q Did you know that Sentinel Insurance's	6 Q You can see from this document that it	
7 pretax income for the years 2016 and 2015 were	7 reports that as of the end of 2016, the cash and	
8 approximately a little over 4 million and a little	8 investments totaled \$5.9 million.	
9 over 5 million, respectively?	9 A Yes.	
10 A I did not.	Q And you see that there was unearned	
Q It says the capital and surplus at the	11 premiums of about 1.2 million as of the end of the	
12 end of 2016 was about 17.6 million. Do you see	12 year 2016, right?	
13 that?	13 A Yes.	
14 A Yes.	Q Were you aware of any of that	
Q Did you know that?	15 information when you signed off on the	
16 A No, I did not.	16 \$100 million insurance policy that has been the	
Q Did you have any idea about the income	17 subject of today's discussion?	
18 or capital and surplus levels at Sentinel	18 A No.	
19 Reinsurance ever?	19 Q Did you I'm flipping the next page,	
20 A No.	20 which says, "Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited,	
Q Do you have somebody in your life who	21 Financial Statements" as of December 31st, 2016.	
22 would manage an investment like Sentinel	22 And then on the next page I'll scroll down a	
23 Reinsurance, Limited for you, that you had a	23 little so you can see it more easily it shows	
24 70 percent stake in?	24 the balance sheets as of December 2016 and	
25 A Scott Ellington.	25 December 2015. Do you see that?	
134		136
Q Okay. It's entirely Scott Ellington	1 A Yep.	
2 who's responsible for managing Sentinel	2 Q And do you see where it says	
3 Reinsurance and monitoring it?	3 "Shareholders' Total Equity," and breaks it down	
4 A Yes.	4 from contributed surplus, unrealized loss,	
5 Q And he's always had that role since its	5 et cetera, and then Total Shareholders' Equity.	
6 founding?	6 Do you see that?	
7 A Yes.	7 A Yes.	
8 Q And is there any one else at all you	8 Q Does that in any way help you remember	
9 know that's involved in Sentinel Reinsurance,	9 roughly how much you invested in Sentinel	
10 Limited, other than Scott Ellington?	10 Reinsurance that narrows the range from 1 to	
A Not that I'm aware of. If there is, he	11 200 sorry, from 1 to 125 million dollars, as	
12 would know.	12 you previously testified?	
Q Did Scott Ellington ever report	A I is that is that what you're	
14 anything about the financials of Sentinel	14 asking me, is 20 or 30 million dollars between 1	
15 Reinsurance to you in any way?	15 and 100? Yeah, but I didn't know these numbers	
16 A I mean, sometimes he would verbally	16 specifically.	
17 talk about it, but you know, like the	17 Q No, I previously asked you how much you	
18 transaction we were discussing earlier. But other	18 invested in Sentinel Reinsurance, and you said you	
19 than that, there wasn't a formal reporting process	19 didn't really know other than it was somewhere in	
20 or or I wasn't in the loop on documentation	20 the range of 1 to 125 million dollars. And I'm	
21 such as this.	21 wondering if, by looking at this balance sheet, it	
22 Q Did you ever in your life see a	22 in any way refreshes your recollection or allows	
23 document that referred to Sentinel Reinsurance,	23 you to better narrow the range of how much you	
 23 document that referred to Sentinel Reinsurance, 24 Limited? 25 A I don't believe so. 	 23 you to better narrow the range of how much you 24 invested in Sentinel Reinsurance. 25 A I don't was it started in this year? 	

139 1 Was it started in '15? I mean, I don't know when 1 see that? 2 exactly it started, but it's looking like there 2 A Yep. 3 was -- it looks like it was worth 20-odd million 3 Q Any of this ring a bell at all? 4 dollars. I don't understand the dividend lines, A Nope. 4 Q But you would expect Scott Ellington 5 though. I will say that. I don't remember ever 5 6 getting a dividend out of Sentinel. would know all about this? Q Would you have records to show whether A Yes. or not you ever received a dividend from Sentinel? And there is no other human being that A I mean, I would know if I did. I don't 9 you can identify who you would expect to know 10 know if Sentinel was part of a holding company or 10 about this? 11 something. Maybe there's a holding company above A No. Yeah, but again, you know, to the 11 12 this. But I can say for sure -- I can say for 12 extent that Scott needed help or access to other 13 sure I never received 70 percent of 11.5 or 4.0. 13 people, he would know. Q Are you still unable to narrow down how 14 Q Do you know who Andrew Dean is? 15 much you invested in Sentinel Reinsurance to 15 A No. 16 anything more definite than somewhere between Q I'm flipping through the pages here to 16 17 1 and 125 million dollars? 17 the page titled "Summary of All Units," and it 18 says, "Underwriting Income," "Premiums written" 18 A I don't have a recollection. Based on 19 these financials, I would say it's more likely 19 and "Change in unearned premiums." Do you see 20 between 1 and 50. I would say that. 20 that? Q Okay. I'm flipping to the next page, 21 A Yes. 22 and it shows the income statements for 2016 and 2.2. Q And do you see that it says 23 "Inception-to-Date," the total premiums written 23 2015. Have you ever seen this before? 24 24 were \$6.2 million as of the end of the year 2016, A No. 25 25 correct? Q Did you have any knowledge of even 138 140 1 directionally or approximately the amount of 1 2 income that Sentinel Reinsurance generated in 2016 Q And do you remember previous -- and and 2015? then it says there's unearned premiums of A No. \$1.228 million. Do you see that? 5 Q I'm showing you the next page, which is A Yes. 6 marked "Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited, Statements Q So does this information change your 7 of Cash Flow' for the periods of 2016 and 2015, 7 view as to whether or not Sentinel Reinsurance had 8 and it shows "Net income," "Cash Flows from 8 ever issued a policy for more than -- a single 9 Investing Activities," and "Cash Flows from 9 policy for more than \$10 million prior to August 10 Financing Activities." Do you see that? 10 of 2017? 11 A Yep. A Well, I mean, we only go through end of 12 Q And do you see where it shows cash 12 '16 here. I don't know how rapid the growth was 13 balances as well? 13 in '17, but it was -- you know, it's clearly --A Yes. 14 it's clearly a start-up but it's on a significant Q And here it refers to significant 15 15 trajectory, with the desire probably to have even 16 dividends paid in 2016. 16 greater trajectory. So I -- you know, so maybe 17 A Yep. 17 the bigger policies came later. Q And then it says, "Contributed But, anyway, I -- like I said, I wasn't 19 surplus." Do you have any idea what that refers 19 involved in the day-to-day. I don't have 20 to? 20 awareness, exactly. 21 A I don't know. Q Okay. But in 2017, in approximately 22 August, you authorized an insurance policy with a Q The next page says, "Sentinel 23 Reinsurance, Limited, Supplemental Schedules" as 23 face value of \$100 million, correct? 24 of December 31st, 2016. And the next page shows A Right. But I'm sure a premium value of 25 "Prepaid Expenses and Other Liabilities." Do you 25 much less than 100, right?

141 143 Q What was the premium value of the 1 A Yes. 2 policy that had the \$100 million liability, -- to justify the \$100 million policy? roughly? 3 A I don't know. Q But you've made no effort to confirm Q Didn't you previously say you thought that he did that; is that true? it was 70 to 80 million dollars in illiquid A Other than talking with my lawyers. 6 Like I said, I haven't prepared or refreshed on 8 A No. I said the amount of illiquid the history here. 9 assets were 70 to 80, but I don't know what the Q Well, as you sit here today, do you 10 premium structure was, like how much of the net 70 10 recall making any effort to ensure that 11 or 80 was premium. Or -- or, you know, you'd 11 Mr. Ellington did any sort of market task to 12 mentioned 110 of asset value, which I never heard 12 ensure that the amount of premium paid for the 13 before, but maybe the 110 less the premium is how 13 \$100 million policy was consistent with what a 14 it got to 75 or 80. You know, I don't know the --14 third-party transaction would have required? 15 I don't know the structure of the policy. A Not that I recall at this point. Q Why would 70 or 80 million dollars of Q Who negotiated on behalf of Highland 16 17 assets be transferred to Sentinel Reinsurance in 17 Financial Partners and its subsidiaries in setting 18 connection with the policy other than for a 18 the amount that would be paid for the \$100 million 19 premium payment? 19 insurance policy? A I don't know. I mean, that's what I'm 20 A Scott Ellington. 21 saying. It's -- but the premiums can take 21 Q Who negotiated on behalf of Sentinel 22 different forms, where it's like a first-year 22 Reinsurance in that transaction? 23 premium or future premiums, you know, whatever, 23 A You know what, before I say Scott 24 you can segment the premiums. Again, I just -- I 24 Ellington, I -- well, compliance -- I don't know. 25 don't know the structure of the policy, Andy. I 25 All I know is, like I said, we had to go through 142 144 don't know the structure. 1 compliance, I know we had to work it through the regulators also. And when you're on both sides of Q Who decided how much premium would be paid for the \$100 million face value policy? the transaction, the scrutiny is higher, but I A That would have been the process 4 don't know if -- sometimes organizationally 5 Ellington went through with compliance and with 5 compliance will require somebody to be 6 the regulators on what was fair and appropriate 6 representing one party and somebody to be 7 for the risk and then what was comparable to 7 representing the other party just to make sure 8 third-party transactions. 8 there is some separation. And although Scott Q Did Mr. Ellington do a market check 9 Ellington coordinated the overall transaction, I 10 against third-party transactions in deciding how 10 don't know if there was somebody separate 11 much premium to pay for the \$100 million face 11 representing one side or the other or if he 12 value policy? 12 represented both. I don't know, so I shouldn't A I'm sure -- I'm sure that was part of 13 speculate, but -- but he was the overall architect 14 his process and approval in his back-and-forth. 14 of the transaction. 15 I'm sure it was. But I don't have specific 15 Q Did Scott Ellington represent all the 16 other parties to the insurance policy other than 16 awareness. 17 HFP and its subsidiaries and Sentinel Reinsurance, 17 Q Is that because he told you that's what 18 he did? 18 as far as you know? A "Other parties." I don't know if there A It's -- that would have been, I would 20 have thought, the starting point -- the logical 20 were other parties to the core of the transaction. 21 starting point for discussions with compliance and 21 There might have been approvals from some other

22 parties if you're saying there was a DAF note or

23 something else. But I believe if there was any

24 other parties involved, they would have their

25 own -- their approval would be separate. I

22 the regulators, but I don't have awareness.

24 have done a third-party check on the amounts of

25 premium that had to be paid --

Q So you assumed that Mr. Ellington must

145 147 1 just -- I can't say for sure Ellington represented 1 fall in arrears when the economy weakens and cash both HFP and Sentinel. I can't say for sure. is diverted, but generally they pay -- generally Q You were requested to provide advice they pay flows or dividends. 4 about the assets of Sentinel Reinsurance and Q Is the Grayson CLO Limited 144A, is what -- how to best maximize their value, correct? that a collection of corporate loans or A Yes -- or, yeah, it would be on the securitized corporate loans? 7 asset side I would get queried periodically on 7 A Yes. 8 what to invest in. And what does the 144A refer to, do you 9 know? Q Okay. I'm going to flip ahead a few 10 pages of this Exhibit 25 to a page that says, 10 A 144A private placement. 11 "Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited, Supporting Q What does that mean to you? 11 12 Schedules," as of December 31st, 2016. 12 A That it's a private placement. It's 13 A Sure. 13 not a public bond. It's issued under the 144A 14 private placement exemption the SEC has. Q And then the next page has some assets. 15 I'm going to blow this up a little bit. There Q Do you know how much cash over time 16 are, it says here, "Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited, 16 Sentinel Reinsurance collected with respect to 17 Detailed Investment Schedule," as of 17 this asset? 18 December 31st, 2016, and there are four CLOs 18 A No idea. 19 listed on this page, which is Bates labeled with 19 Q Do you know how much they paid for this 20 1081 as the last four digits. Do you see that? 20 asset? 21 A Yes. 21 A No idea. 22 Q And the first one is an asset called 2.2. Q Do you know where they got this asset? A No idea. 23 'Grayson CLO LTD 144A." Do you see that? 23 24 Q There are -- there is another asset A Yes. 24 25 here called "Greenbriar CLO LTD" that has a market 25 Q Do you know what that asset is, Grayson 146 148 1 CLO LTD 144A? 1 value of 1.4. Do you see that? A I think that was an old CLO that we did 2 A Yes. 3 in the early 2000 period, and -- yes, that's what 3 Q Do you know anything about that asset? it looks like. A No. I would say for all four listed, I Q And it said as of that date it had a 5 would give you the exact same answers. And I value of \$1.7 million. Do you see that? 6 don't know where they came from. They generally 7 produce cash flow, but I don't know in any given Q And it had a -- do you know if that 8 particular year, and I couldn't even begin to 9 asset was ever monetized? 9 estimate how much cash over its life, and I don't 10 A I have no idea. 10 know where it came from. Q Do you know if Sentinel Reinsurance Q You have heard of the Greenbriar CLO 11 12 still holds that asset today? 12 Limited asset recently, haven't you? You've 13 A I have no idea. 13 discussed that recently? 14 Q Do you have any idea if it was ever A Was that the asset that Seery promised 15 to help give to UBS? Was that that asset? 15 sold? Q Well, you heard about an asset called 16 A No. 17 Q Would an asset like that generate cash? 17 Greenbriar that I believe you offered to provide 18 A It would depend on the year. 18 to UBS in one of your settlement proposals and 19 that is -- also been mentioned in connection with 19 Generally, yes. Q Do you know if any cash has been 20 the UBS settlement with Highland. Does that ring 21 generated in connection with the Grayson CLO 21 a bell? 22 Limited 144A asset? 22 A Yes. Yeah, that is -- it may not be A Over its life, for sure, but at any 23 that Greenbriar, I mean, or it may not be that 24 given year or any given moment, I don't know. 24 piece, because I think the piece you guys were 25 They generally pay quarterly, but sometimes they 25 talking about was larger, but it's essentially the

149 151 1 same security. 1 asset? Q The same security. And that security 2 A I don't believe I ever talked to Seery 3 that you had offered previously to either turn about Greenbriar at all. 4 over or pay the value to as part of a proposed Q Did you tell any of the directors that 5 settlement, is that currently being held by CDO the Greenbriar asset was subject to a participation letter? 6 Fund? A I don't know where it's being held. I A No, I don't think I discussed it with 8 think -- I don't know. I don't know where -any of them. 9 it's -- I think the only reason why it was the Q Did you discuss that with any of the 10 lawyers at the Pachulski firm? 10 only asset hanging around is I think it couldn't 11 be transferred directly, and so I think it might 11 A No. 12 have been transferred indirectly versus a 12 Q Who was the participate- -- who was the 13 participation letter. I don't know its history or 13 counterparty in that participation letter? 14 where it is exactly. A I don't know. 14 Q Sorry, it couldn't be transferred from 15 Q If there --A If one exists, Scott Ellington will be 16 whom to whom? 16 A It was going to be transferred at some 17 your person on that. 18 point, somewhere, at some time, and it just -- it Q Anybody else in the world you can think 19 couldn't be transferred directly so I think it was 19 of who would know anything about it, other than 20 transferred indirectly via a participation letter. 20 Scott Ellington? 21 That was my recollection on why the Greenbriar was 21 A No. 22 still sitting somewhere, wherever that was. Q This is the last page I'm turning to 23 Q What's a participation letter, as you 23 now of Exhibit 25. It's a page entitled "Sentinel 24 used that term? 24 Reinsurance, Limited, Intercompany Receivables" as 25 of December 31, 2016. Do you see that? A It's like if you didn't want to sell me 150 152 1 your house and go through the change of ownership A Yes. 1 2 record, redoing a mortgage, whatever, but if you 2 Q And there's relatively small sums that 3 signed a participation letter with me that over date from November 24th, 2014 through, it looks 4 the next five years, whatever appreciation of the like, July of 2016, the total about \$114,000. Do 5 house would go to me and I would pay the expenses you know anything about this? 6 of the mortgage for the next five years, where A No. 7 we're essentially transferring the Q And then it lists some entities at the 8 responsibilities of ownership and you net the bottom, Nimitz, Ltd.; Patton, Ltd. Do you know 9 differences in flows and price at some later date. what those entities are? 10 That's what I thought. That's 10 A No. 11 typically what our participation letter is and Q Do you know what SS Holdings is? 11 12 that's what I thought was involved in the 12 13 Greenbriar, but I'm not sure. 13 Q Given this balance sheet -- and I'm 14 Q Who told you that? 14 going to go back. And I realize this is as of 15 A Scott Ellington, I believe. 15 December 2016, but this is being sent -- you can Q When did he tell you that? 16 see it's -- going back to the first page, it's 16 17 A I don't know, years ago. Like I said, 17 being sent August 16, 2017. That was around the 18 I think there was always -- there was always some 18 time that Sentinel entered into this \$100 million 19 issue with Greenbriar and transferability, I 19 policy that you approved, correct? 20 A Yes. 20 believe. Q Did you ever see the supposed 21 Q And given the information here about 22 participation letter? 22 the balance sheet -- and I'm going to go back to 23 the balance sheet page, which ends with Bates 23 A No. 24 Q Did you tell Jim Seery there was a 24 number 1071 -- how could Sentinel Reinsurance have 25 participation letter that affected the Greenbrian 25 ever made good on a \$100 million insurance policy,

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Transcript of James Dondero Conducted on May 10, 2021

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given its balance sheet as of December 2016? 1 to make this clear. We're going to have to MR. TAYLOR: I'm going to object to the renegotiate that or renego- -- but it was -- it 3 form. was an extensive process. It wasn't -- it was A Without going over in detail the policy not -- it was not a one-week process. It was a 5 itself, you couldn't make a negative judgment. So multiple-month process. I do remember that. It 6 what you have here is two years of very good wasn't easy. profitability, very good dividend history, very Q You've testified many times today that 8 good earnings history, very good accretion of Scott Ellington was your sole source of 9 value. Without knowing the policy itself, the -information, and only oral, about anything having 10 no insurance company underwrites a policy that 10 to do with Sentinel, but you just said that many 11 they believe has a chance of paying out 11 people were involved in this process. 12 immediately at full value with no premiums A Well, just in the office, people 13 received, you know, so there's -- depending upon 13 reporting -- it was primarily -- it was 14 the policy structure, there's premiums, there's 14 probably -- it was primarily Surgent and just 15 cushion, there's whatever, and then there's a 15 people reporting to him were all running around 16 probability associated with the payout and there's 16 for months going back and forth with Ellington and 17 a timing estimate associated with the payout. 17 his group, you know. Q Sorry, Surgent -- Thomas Surgent, who 18 You can't make a -- I don't believe. 19 You can't make a judgment from this to say what 19 was then the chief of compliance? 20 would or wouldn't be a good, plausible investment 20 A Yes. 21 from here. 21 Q He spent many months analyzing this Q Do you know -- did you endeavor to make 23 any assessment about the timing of potential A Yes. The back-and-forth with Ellington 24 payments or the likelihood of payments under the 24 and, like I said, also the offshore regulators, 25 policy or the timing of the premiums or anything 25 also. 154 156 1 like that before you approved the insurance Q Okay. But let's stick with the people 1 2 policy? at Highland. So Thomas Surgent went back and forth with Ellington many times over several A That -- that general underwriting and 4 structuring would have been the process that 4 months? 5 5 Ellington underwent to make it arm's length and to A Yes. 6 also make it compliant with compliance and the Q And you said many people working with 7 regulators. him. Who specifically worked with Thomas Surgent Q And Ellington would have had to go assisting in this effort? 9 through that both with your internal compliance A See, that's a -- I mean, his area had 10 and in some form or fashion to submit to the 10 people buzzing on this and different people, I 11 regulators; is that correct? 11 think, sticking their fingers in and whatever, but 12 A Yes. 12 I -- beyond the general buzz of his areas and then Q And do you know -- and the records 13 to a lesser extent Ellington's area -- I think 14 showing that that occurred, if they did -- if it 14 Ellington was largely handling it for his area. 15 did occur, would it still exist at Highland? 15 But there was a lot of activity. There was a lot A Yes. It -- it occurred, and it was an 16 of -- there was a lot of back-and-forth. 17 extensive multi-month process, and there was a lot Q Who specifically other than Tom 18 of back-and-forth. 18 Surgent? Q How do you know that? A I don't know who they were accessing, 20 A Because people would talk about it --20 and I don't want to speculate on who on their 21 Q What people? 21 teams were working with them. But Ellington and A -- oh, they're still working on this, 22 Surgent were both knee-deep in it. 23 they are still going with that, compliance needs 23 Q And did you talk to Surgent at any

24 point while he was knee-deep in efforts to examine

25 the propriety of this \$100 million policy?

24 this, the regulators want that, they don't

25 understand this, you know, whatever, we're trying

157 159 A No. I mean, I -- no. He's very A Thomas. Thomas. I think he's -- this 2 capable, very thoughtful. He's a smart -- he's a bankruptcy process and the way people behave in 3 smart man. He is smart financially even though bankruptcy I think has disappointed him. Q What makes you say that if you haven't 4 his background is more on the legal side. He 5 5 didn't need my help. And, plus, on these kinds of talked to him? 6 things, it's compliance versus the businessperson. A Well, I just -- from other people who 6 It's better if I don't get involved. do talk to him. Q Is Scott Ellington trustworthy, in your Q Who? 8 9 opinion? A Well, the guys -- there are still a 10 A Yes. 10 bunch of guys here that talk to him. Q Is he honest? Q Who? 11 11 12 A Yes. I think you know that too. 12 A Does it matter? I -- you know. 13 Q Do you absolutely trust him to handle Q Yeah. Who did you hear from that 13 14 this honestly and appropriately? 14 Thomas Surgent feels this way? A Yes. I mean, and like I said, when I A You know what, I -- let me think about 15 16 look at the dividend thing there, those are large 16 it, I'll get back to you. Let me think on it. 17 dividends, and I'm telling you, I didn't get any. Q No, you just said that you have heard 17 18 So, you know, but I don't sit here -- I don't sit 18 these things that Thomas Surgent is feeling. Who 19 here worried about the fact that the money was 19 did you hear that from? 20 absconded with. I know there's probably a holding A Yeah, let me think. It's one of a 21 company or a funding of some other subsidiary or 21 couple people. Let me boil it down and I'll get 22 something. I know there is an explanation to it. 22 back to you. 23 I trust there is an explanation to it, but I don't 23 Q Who? 24 A I'll get back to you. I can't remember 24 know what it is. 25 exactly who. 25 Q Is Thomas Surgent trustworthy? 158 160 A Yes. I -- honestly, my experience with Q Depositions aren't take-home exams. So 1 2 him over the years is that he was very as you sit here today --3 trustworthy. I think he is one of the half dozen A Okay, but I'm just going to tell -- I'm 4 people whose career has been ruined or corrupted, just going to leave you, then, with I don't 5 corrupted by Seery in the whole process, and, you remember. 6 know, whatever. I think he is more distant and Q Who were you thinking said that when 7 less focused and less interested. But I still you said it? Who were the two candidates? 8 think he is -- even though I think he is in a very 8 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form. 9 difficult situation at the moment, I think he is a 9 A I--10 trustworthy person. Q Who are the two candidates in your mind Q Is Thomas Surgent honest, in your view? 11 that might have been the ones who told you that 11 A Yes. Although, again, I just have to 12 Thomas Surgent was unhappy? 13 draw a distinction from -- I haven't talked to him 13 A I'm not going to go there, Andy. 14 in over a year, and he has been very 14 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, he doesn't have to 15 discombobulated by the bankruptcy process. He was 15 speculate. 16 the one who was negotiating with Redeemer for the A I'm going to leave it at -- I'm going 17 three weeks before we filed when Mashrum jerked 17 to leave it at I don't remember or I'll get back 18 him on the 50 million at 7:00 a.m. in the morning 18 to you, if you want. Q You said you would get back to me. Who 19 in Delaware. And so I'm not sure he's recovered

22 Surgent?

20 were the two names that you were thinking of when

A Like I said, I don't want to spec---

25 some more and think about it but at the moment, I

24 it might be three names. I need to chew on it

21 you said that there are people who still talk to

20 from that, let alone -- you know, Seery used to

23 largely for his own payday. And I think he has

Q Sorry, who has been disappointed?

24 been disappointed by that also.

25

21 work for the estate up until about June, and since

22 then, he has been working for the creditors for --

161	1 1/1 ay 10, 2021	163
1 don't remember.	1 person by name who has ever told you anything	103
2 Q You really have to answer to the best	2 about how Thomas Surgent feels about the	
3 of your ability. So who are the names you were	3 bankruptcy, correct?	
4 thinking of?	4 A Correct.	
5 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, he doesn't have to	5 Q So you have no basis for the assumption	
6 speculate. He says he can't remember. He doesn't	6 that Thomas Surgent feels a certain way about the	
7 have to speculate.	7 bankruptcy as you sit here today, correct?	
8 Q Well, you testified that somebody told	8 A That's that's what I was beginning	
9 you something well, you testified about what	9 to realize as I was saying it, that I might be	
10 Mr. Surgent feels, and you have not spoken to him	10 overlaying too much of my too much of my own	
11 in over a year, correct?	11 views or too much of other people's just general	
12 A That's right. And so think about it.	12 views or just too much I might be reading into	
13 It was, you know, multiple people giving multiple	13 too much or connecting too many dots. So I don't	
14 tidbits. I don't want to I don't want to	14 want to go any further down that conjecture.	
15 speculate or jump to a conclusion. I'll think	15 Q Okay. Let's close this document,	
16 about it some more, but I can't remember or	16 please, and let's open up the next document that's	
17 attribute it exactly to one person at this moment.	17 behind Tab 6. It will be marked as Exhibit 26.	
18 Q You said there were people who speak to	18 (Deposition Exhibit 26 marked for	
19 Thomas Surgent still. Who are they?	19 identification.)	
20 A Well, I mean, it's most most	Q Exhibit 26, when it gets put up on the	
21 everybody in senior management still speaks to him	21 screen, will be a one-page document that	
22 so	22 identifies entities that are connected to Sentinel	
23 Q Who?	23 Reinsurance. And here we go. We have it up here.	
24 A I mean, just most everybody in senior	24 First of all, it says that "Multi Strat	
25 management still	25 Credit Fund" it identifies Multi Strat Credit	
162		164
1 Q What are their names?	1 Fund, and it says, 'Investor, Sentinel	
2 A speak to him.	2 Reinsurance." Do you see that?	
3 You know, you can look up the org	3 A Yes.	
4 chart, Andy. I'm not I don't want to speculate	4 Q What does that mean?	
5 or point to anybody in particular at this point.	5 A I've never seen this I've never seen	
6 You know, and really, really part of the reason,	6 this page before. Or I've never seen this paper	
7 too, as I was thinking before before I would	7 before.	
8 speculate or attribute it to one person, I was	8 MR. TAYLOR: You don't have to	
9 going through it in my mind, like, okay, how much	9 speculate.	
10 of it is my perception, maybe being a little	10 Q Well, do you know whether or not	
11 sensitive to everything he's been through, and	11 Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited is an investor in	
12 then how much of it is did someone truly say, and	12 Multi Strat Credit Fund LP?	
13 then how much did maybe somebody else put their	13 A I don't know.	
14 own spin on it.	14 Q In fact, you have seen recently	
15 And I just don't want I don't want	15 documents that show you that Sentinel Reinsurance	
16 to go down the	16 is a redeemer in Multi Strat; isn't that true?	
17 Q As you sit here today, you can't	17 A I'm trying to what documents have I	
18 identify a single person who has told you anything	18 seen? And I'm willing to be refreshed on that.	
19 about how Thomas Surgent feels in 2021; is that	19 Yeah, I'm willing to be refreshed on that.	
20 correct?	20 Q You are aware, as you sit here today,	
21 A That's correct. It would be best to	21 that Sentinel Reinsurance is a redeemer in Multi	
22 talk to him about it. And, you know, you can	22 Strat, correct?	
23 it would be best to talk to him.	23 A Okay, I'm willing to be refreshed.	
24 Q And as you sit here today, you can't	24 That sounds that sounds plausible, potentially	
25 think of one person you can't identify one	25 familiar. If do you have a redeemer listing	

165	167
1 you could show me that Multi Strat is?	1 is an entity that Scott Ellington is the
Q We'll get to that, but I just you're	2 beneficial owner of?
3 a 70 percent owner of Sentinel Reinsurance and	3 A Yeah, I mean, it looks like it. And in
4 there has been a lot of discussion in the last few	4 the detail the detail below looks like those
5 months about Multi Strat and the redemption and	5 are the names of the entities that have the
6 potential settlements. And it's fair to say that	6 beneficial ownership. That's what this appears to
7 you are aware that Sentinel Reinsurance is a	7 be.
8 one of the redeemers of Multi Strat Credit Fund,	8 Q So as you sit here today, you have no
9 correct?	9 reason to dispute the fact that you own an entity
MR. TAYLOR: He's answered that, and he	10 called Patton, Limited that, in turn, is a
11 said he is willing to be	11 70 percent beneficial owner of Sentinel
MR. CLUBOK: That's okay. It's okay.	12 Reinsurance; is that correct?
MR. TAYLOR: refreshed.	13 A I have no reason to know otherwise. I
MR. CLUBOK: You don't need to have a	14 have no reason to dispute that.
15 speaking objection.	15 Q And you have no reason to dispute that
16 Q But Mr. Dondero, it's correct that over	16 Scott Ellington is the beneficial owner of Nimitz,
17 the last few months you have seen information that	17 which, in turn, is a 30 percent beneficial owner
18 demonstrates to you that Sentinel Reinsurance is a	18 in Sentinel Reinsurance, correct?
19 redeemer in Multi Strat Credit Fund, correct?	19 A Correct.
20 MR. TAYLOR: Objection as to the form	20 Q Let's did you tell anyone at
21 and it's been asked and answered.	21 Highland Capital Management ever that you were a
22 A I'm willing to be refreshed. And that	22 70 percent owner in Sentinel Reinsurance other
23 sounds, like I said, plausible and possible.	23 than Scott Ellington?
Q It's not just plausible and possible.	24 A Not that I not that I remember, not
25 As you sit here today, you know that Sentinel	25 that I recall.
166	168
1 Reinsurance is one of the redeemers in	1 Q Do you know what Mainspring, Limited
2 Multi-Strat; isn't that true?	2 is?
3 A Yeah, I'm trying to remember. It's	A No. I'm willing to be educated, but
4 like they were an investor. Did they redeem, or	4 no, I don't.
5 are they a separate, you know, non-redeemed	Why didn't you tell anyone connected
6 investor, or is some of it split I'm willing to	6 with Highland, other than Scott Ellington, that
7 be educated. I just can't remember the form of	you were a 70 percent beneficial owner in Sentinel
8 their investment.	8 Reinsurance?
9 Q Okay. And on this document that's been	A It never came up or no one ever asked.
10 marked as Exhibit 26 it talks about Patton,	10 Q When you approved the \$100 million
11 Limited being a 70 percent beneficial owner. Do	11 insurance policy, did you ever make an effort to
12 you see that?	12 ensure that Thomas Surgent knew that you were a
13 A Yes.	13 70 percent beneficial owner in Sentinel
Q Is it true that Patton, Limited is an	14 Reinsurance?
15 entity that you have the beneficial ownership	15 A I'm 100 percent certain that Thomas, in
16 interest in?	16 his team in his process, knew that.
17 A Well, I think I mentioned earlier I	17 Q How?
18 know that I'm a 70 percent beneficial owner of	18 A He would have he would have never
19 Sentinel. I never knew the name of the entity,	19 proved it otherwise, and, again, he was asked to
20 and if you're telling me the entity is Patton,	20 prove it because it was two entities related,
21 Limited, and it does resemble 70 percent, I	21 controlled whatever the thresholds are for
22 okay, I'm willing to be educated on that, but I	22 properly running something through compliance that
23 didn't know the name before, but I still don't	23 Ellington was doing, there's no way you would get
24 know the name now.	24 through compliance without disclosing fulsomely,
25 Q Okay. Do you know that Nimitz, Limited	25 completely and transparently what the overlaps

169 171 1 ownership or the control of Sentinel, he would 1 were. 2 Q You're assuming all that because that's have never run it through compliance. The only the only way it could have been done properly, reason to take a transaction like this through correct? compliance is because you're being honest and A It's the only way it would have been 5 forthright about the overlap. Q And if you didn't run it through done at all. Q Okay. But you didn't see that compliance honestly and forthrightly, that would disclosure, you don't have any firsthand knowledge be a huge problem, correct? 9 of that disclosure occurring, you know nothing A If he didn't run it through compliance 10 about that supposed disclosure other than what 10 at all, yes. 11 you're assuming happened, correct? Q And if he didn't fully disclose to 11 A Yeah, but again, if you go back to 12 compliance the nature of the affiliation of 13 Dodd-Frank and the personal liability put in for 13 Sentinel Reinsurance, that would be a huge 14 chief compliance officers and the elevation of 14 problem, correct? 15 chief compliance officers to the C-suite, it would A Yeah, but it goes back to my testimony 15 16 be a -- to do it haphazardly or to do it without 16 that I don't think that would be possible. 17 doing that or knowing that would be a violation of Q Understood. But you have not seen any 17 18 compliance and regulations, and he would 18 documents -- you have never seen a document, not a 19 knowingly -- he would be knowingly putting himself 19 single document that shows Mr. Surgent and the 20 in harm's way or liability if he were to do it 20 compliance team being made aware that Sentinel 21 without understanding and knowing the players. 21 Reinsurance was an affiliated entity; is that Q And so would you. You would also have 22 correct? 23 that same liability under Dodd-Frank that you just 23 A Yes. I wasn't involved in the process. 24 described that Mr. Surgent would have, given your 24 But, again, it's not plausible to go to compliance 25 road, correct? 25 and say, I have a transaction you need to approve 170 172 A That's right. That's why I don't do it because there's overlap, but I'm not going to tell without doing it correctly. you what the overlap is. Sign off on it. There Q So if you didn't ensure that it was is just no chance of that happening. 4 known that Sentinel Reinsurance was an affiliated Q If Mr. Ellington had not done that, entity, there would be a big problem, correct? that would be a huge problem, correct? A Well, yeah, I mean -- yes, I guess, A Yeah, there would have to be some facts 7 yes, but there is no reason why it would have and circumstances that I don't understand. 8 been -- if it was going to be obfuscated, it Q Okay, let's look at -- let's look at 9 wouldn't have been pushed through compliance. It Tab 7A. Tab 7A is an exhibit that will be marked 10 was pushed through compliance because we were 10 as Exhibit 27. 11 being correctly transparent about it. (Deposition Exhibit 27 marked for 11 Q And that responsibility for ensuring 12 identification.) 13 that it was known that Sentinel Reinsurance was an 13 Q It will take a minute to -- oh, that 14 affiliated entity also fell to Scott Ellington in 14 was fast. 15 addition to you and Mr. Surgent, correct? 15 Let me try to make it a little bit more A Yes. 16 sized properly so you can see it, hopefully. 16 17 Q And if Mr. Ellington obfuscated the Exhibit 27 is an e-mail from you at 18 fact that Sentinel Reinsurance was an affiliated 18 your JDondero@HighlandCapital.com e-mail address 19 to Tim Cournoyer, also at a HighlandCapital.com --19 entity, that would be a big problem, right? A Yes. But you're missing the point. If 20 A Yes. 21 they -- if Ellington was going to do an insurance 21 Q -- address; Subject: Re: Consent of 22 Managers - SeaOne Holdings LLC, dated January 22 policy with Aon or Chubb or some third party, he 23 could have done it unilaterally in 10 minutes 23 2019. 24 without ever mentioning a word of it to 24 Do you see that? 25 compliance. If he was going to obfuscate the 25 A Yes.

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173	175
1 Q Who is Tim Cournoyer?	1 Dugaboy's signature."
2 A He is one of the he was one of the	2 And in response to that you say you
3 internal lawyers at Highland on the corporate	3 approve the waiver and are moving forward.
4 side, generally, who didn't come over to the new	4 Do you see that?
5 entities over here but still works for Seery at	5 A Yes.
6 Highland.	Q Do you remember this transaction?
7 Q Is he honest?	7 A Yes. I mean, generally, yes.
8 A I don't know Tim as well. I don't	8 Q Describe what you know about it.
9 know I can't I don't have I don't know	9 A SeaOne was a venture capital
10 him as well to have a strong opinion.	10 investment. The former CEO of EOG had come up
11 Q Okay. And in this e-mail at the top of	11 with a more creative way to ship natural gas
12 the chain you say, "Yes, I approve waiver and	12 around the world using essentially making a
13 moving forward." Do you see that?14 A Yes.	13 radiator out of a 42-inch pipeline. It's much 14 better, it's much more efficient, much cheaper
15 Q Do you remember this exchange?	15 than LNG, but it's taking two or three times as
16 A Not specifically, but I can be can	16 long, as everybody expected, to get any kind of
17 you enlarge this a little bit? I can be	17 industry buy-in, so they were frequently doing
18 refreshed, I believe.	18 additional capital raises. Some of them were
19 Q Yeah, I'm going to enlarge the e-mail	19 offensive and some of them were defensive.
20 that immediately precedes that to which you're	20 We were an early investor an earlier
21 responding to. And the e-mail that you say, "Yes,	21 investor in SeaOne so we had the ability to
22 I approve waiver and moving forward" is a response	22 participate in rights offerings or block any
23 to an e-mail that Mr. Cournoyer how do you	23 defensive rights offerings. We just had some
24 pronounce that name?	24 shareholder protections as an earlier investor.
25 A Cournin (phonetic) I think is how you	25 And what this back-and-forth here is,
174	176
1 pronounce it.	1 you know, to allow the additional financing to
2 Q How?	
	2 occur at the company, we had to waive some of our
	3 rights. 4 Q Okay. And you were the decision maker
3 A Cournin. I would have said Tim	3 rights.4 Q Okay. And you were the decision maker
3 A Cournin. I would have said Tim 4 Cournin.	3 rights.4 Q Okay. And you were the decision maker
 3 A Cournin. I would have said Tim 4 Cournin. 5 Q Cournin with an "N"? 	 3 rights. 4 Q Okay. And you were the decision maker 5 for Dugaboy's decision to participate in the new
 3 A Cournin. I would have said Tim 4 Cournin. 5 Q Cournin with an 'N"? 6 A Yes. 	 3 rights. Q Okay. And you were the decision maker 5 for Dugaboy's decision to participate in the new 6 offering?
 3 A Cournin. I would have said Tim 4 Cournin. 5 Q Cournin with an "N"? 6 A Yes. 7 Q So the O-Y-E-R is silent? 	 3 rights. 4 Q Okay. And you were the decision maker 5 for Dugaboy's decision to participate in the new 6 offering? 7 A Yeah, I want to be careful here. You
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177 179 anyone. You just had the authority to approve the 1 without checking with the Sentinel directors; 2 waiver on behalf of both Sentinel and Dugaboy, isn't that true? 3 correct? MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form. A No, I'm not saying that. I approved A I have no comment on that. I was just 5 the waiver and the concept of the waiver, but, approving the company's -- the reasonableness of 6 again, I'm acting as the investment professional the company's amendment request. on this particular investment. It doesn't give me Q I'm going down the e-mail chain here, 8 carte blanche on the funds that they're in -- that and it started with, it looks like, an e-mail from 9 those investments are in. Bart Baker of SeaOne Holdings to you that sought a 10 Q I didn't ask that. My question is, 10 consent of managers for SeaOne Holdings related to 11 specifically with this transaction, you believed 11 the continuation of the capital raise of that 12 that you had the authority to approve the waiver 12 company, and they asked you to sign the signature 13 of the right to participate in that new offering 13 page. Do you see that? 14 on behalf of both Sentinel and Dugaboy, correct? 14 A Yes. A No. I approve, meaning I agree. You 15 Q And you then forwarded that to Tim --16 know, that's why I always use "I approve" -- from 16 A Cournin. 17 board positions or from senior lead, because it 17 Q -- Tim Cournin, as you call him, right? 18 says I approve or I agree with the waiver. But to 18 A Yes. 19 the extent that it's investment advice and there 19 O And Tim said he reviewed the documents 20 is no reason for a trustee to second-guess me, 20 and he left voice mails with Brian Brantley and 21 they would trust my investment advice, and that's 21 then he explained the transaction and he notes 22 what Tim is parlaying to the funds themselves at 22 about these preemptive rights that Dugaboy and 23 the bottom of the thing there, but just because I 23 Sentinel have, and asked you to confirm that you 24 approve of the waiver doesn't give me broad 24 were okay waiving the rights to participate in 25 authority at independent entities. 25 this round on behalf of Sentinel and Dugaboy, 178 180 Q Right, but you didn't -- you just correct? 1 2 responded to Tim's e-mail. You didn't check with 2 A Yes, overall. And you can see I -anyone before responding. Correct? again, I'm approving it in general from a business A Well -perspective. That's what it says, "Yes, I approve Q Let me break this up. You have never the waiver and moving forward." 6 spoken to a director of Sentinel, as far as you Q Okay. And you made that statement know, correct? without checking in with any director of Sentinel, A That's -- that's correct. 8 correct? 9 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Asked and Q So you didn't check in with the 10 directors of Sentinel before you told Tim that you 10 answered. 11 were okay waiving the right to participate in this A Yeah, correct. I didn't talk to any of 12 round on behalf of Sentinel, correct? 12 the -- I didn't, nor would I have, in normal A That's correct. But that's typical. 13 course, expected to for any accounts that we 14 If you're the investment manager -- like we were 14 manage. 15 saying before, we do portfolios of bank loans. 15 Q And you didn't speak to anyone at 16 Companies need amendments all the time. That 16 Dugaboy either before telling Tim that you 17 would be part of the normal investment process. 17 approved of the waiver on behalf of Dugaboy, 18 We wouldn't call separate accounts or managements 18 correct? 19 at CalPERS to tell them, you know, we were 19 A That's correct.

Q My simple question to you is, for this 25 transaction, you had the right to approve it

20 approving an amendment at Caesar's or Toys-R-Us or

MR. CLUBOK: So move to strike

23 everything after "that's correct".

21 something.

22

25 Q What specific regulators are you

21 that in addition to satisfying internal

23 the insurance policy that was issued?

A Yes.

Q And by the way, previously you said

22 compliance, you also had to satisfy regulators for

20

24

181 183 1 talking about? 1 making up for it in growth," you're basing that A The Cayman reinsurance regulators do solely on the fact that this \$100 million policy 3 some of the analysis and underwriting that you was issued and no other information that you have, 4 were speaking of earlier in terms of making sure correct? 5 the structure, the potential paths, and the 5 A I haven't seen the financials for '17 6 premiums and the assumptions and the probabilities or '18, so I don't know what else they were doing. 7 are reasonable also, especially if it is an Q Well, you just said, "it looks like 8 outsized policy for a company or if the company is they were making up for it in growth in 2017." 9 in a high-growth state, which Sentinel was. And A Well, yeah, based on -- based on what 10 so that's why I know Ellington was in 10 you have been telling me, the policy was done in 11 contemporaneous discussions with them at the same 11 August of '17 and it was a larger policy. 12 time he was getting the transaction through Q When you say 'it looks like they were 13 compliance. 13 making up for their lack of growth in 2016," Q So, first of all, this was an outsized 14 you're solely basing that on the issuance of this 15 policy, given Sentinel Re's history, correct? 15 \$100 million policy and nothing else that you're A I mean, it's outsized or larger than 16 aware of as you sit here today, correct? 17 what they had done historically. 17 A That's right. I haven't seen the '17 Q And, second of all, Sentinel Re, based 18 or the '18 or '19 or '20 financials. 19 on the financial statements, we showed was not in Q Okay. But you have seen financials 20 the high growth, but they were actually 20 that show you they contracted from 2016 as 21 contracting 2016 as compared to 2015; isn't that 21 compared to 2015, correct? 22 right? 22 A Yes. 23 A No. No, they were growing on all 23 MR. CLUBOK: Let's put up Exhibit --24 measures. Their capital just shrunk because of 24 the document that is behind Tab 8. It will be 25 the dividends. 25 marked as Exhibit 28. 182 184 Q Well, their pretax income was shrinking (Deposition Exhibit 28 marked for 1 from 2016 versus 2015, right? identification.) A Okay, all right. Yes, okay. Q This document, when it gets up, is an Q And their balance sheet shrunk between 4 e-mail from Katie Irving to Sam Dawson, Dylan Wiltermuth, copy J.P. Sevilla and Matt DiOrio; 2016 as compared to 2015, right? A Okay, yes, but they are still in the Subject: Entity restructure - Sentinel, and it's high growth mode. dated April 10th, 2019. Q What was one measure that they were I'll show you the top of that document 9 growing in in 2016 compared to 2015 if it's not 9 so you can see that. Do you see all that at the 10 balance sheet, income, capital? Name one measure 10 top of Exhibit 28? 11 that causes you to say that they were high growth? 11 A Yes. 12 A There's an effort in futzpah, footnote Q Okay. I'm going to skip the e-mail 12 13 on page 7. 13 part, but I just want to -- there is an attachment MR. TAYLOR: Andy, if you're going to 14 here that says "SAS" and "Sentinel Final Structure 15 ask him about a document, I would ask that you put 15 as of 9 April 2019, a PowerPoint." And that 16 it up in front of him. 16 attachment, I'm flipping down, it's a -- the first 17 Q There was a footnote on page 7 of what 17 attachment, which is the structure -- 'Offshore 18 Fund Structure" of SAS, is on the page that ends 18 document? A I'm joking. I'm joking, Andy. I said 19 Bates labeled 3125 of Exhibit 28. 20 it was an effort in futzpah, chutzpah, footnote on 20 Do you see that? 21 page 7. But no, I mean, it was -- that was the 21 A Yes. 22 ambition and that was the plan. If it hit a lull 22 Q And I'm going to try to make it so it's 23 in 2016, it looks like they were making up for it 23 as easy as possible to read. First of all, this

24 is an SAS structure not Sentinel, SAS. And do you

25 see where it talks about "USP1," "four USPs" and

24 in growth in 2017.

25

Q When you say "it looks like they were

Conducted on	May 10, 2021
1 then "USP2" on the right? 2 A Yes.	187 1 chart, you get to where it says "70 percent" value 2 for Sentinel Re at the bottom?
Q Fair to say that you are one of these	A Yes.
4 USPs?	Q And USP1 goes down, and there is
5 A No, it's not fair to say. I have no	5 30 percent value. Do you see that?
6 idea.	6 A Yep.
7 Q You have no idea. Okay.	Q And fair to say that under this chart
8 Do you recognize any of the names on	8 Mr. Ellington is USP1 and you are USP2?
9 this org chart for SAS structure as of April 9,	9 A I don't know, and I haven't seen this
10 2019?	10 before.
11 A No, I do not.	11 Q Are there any other U.S. partners
12 Q Have you ever heard of Sebastian	12 invested in Sentinel, other than you and
13 Clarke, Limited?	13 Mr. Ellington, to your knowledge?
14 A No.	14 A I've never seen this before. I don't
15 Q Did you know that Matt DiOrio was a	15 have an awareness of this, that even USP means
16 director of Sentinel Reinsurance?	16 U.S. partner.
17 A I did not.	17 Q Okay. But you are you do have an
18 Q Did you ever speak with Matt DiOrio	18 awareness that Patton was an entity that you owned
19 about Sentinel Reinsurance?	19 70 percent of Sentinel Re through, correct?
20 A No.	20 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.
21 Q Did you did you ever speak to Matt	21 A If that's the same Patton as the one
22 DiOrio in the last two years?	22 that we saw in the Sentinel structure.
23 A I spoke to him a month ago. He was the	23 Q Okay. And you're saying, as you sit
24 point person on some of the shared services	24 here today, you believe you have no relationship
25 agreements with the bank, and so I was working	25 whatsoever with SAS?
186	188
1 with him on those.	1 A This is the first time I've seen
2 Q Is he working with you at your new	2 this can you go back to the page before for a
3 venture?	3 second?
4 A He is at yeah, he works at whatever	4 (Witness reviewing document.)
5 it's called, SkyBridge, SkyGate, whatever,	5 A Even looking at this, I can't figure
6 whatever it's called.	6 this out. Do we get these exhibits as part of the
7 Q So he has an office in the same	7 deposition?
8 building, although on a different floor, than the	8 Q I don't know. Why do you ask?
9 building you're sitting in today?	9 A I'd like to spend more time looking at
10 A Yes.	10 this.
11 Q Have you ever talked to Matt DiOrio	Q Well, as you sit here today, are you
12 about SAS?	12 aware are you testifying that as far as you
13 A No.	13 know, you have no connection whatsoever to SAS?
14 Q I'm going to turn to the next page.	14 A I mean, that's how I understood it,
15 The next page in this document, Exhibit 28, is	15 which is it looks like this was the older
16 another chart, and this is for the Sentinel	16 structure. I mean, I'm trying to I'm trying to
17 structure as of April 9, 2019. Do you see that?	17 figure this out and it's
18 A Yes.	18 Q How do you know it is the older
19 Q Now, here you are USP2, correct?	19 structure?
20 A I've never seen this before. I don't	20 A Well, because that's how it was
21 know if you can make that statement just from	21 presented and that's as of '19, and you have got a
22 the Patton, Limited, I guess, is the same Patton	22 proposed structure a page later, right?
23 on the other page, but I don't know how that	Q Oh, no, no, this is "SAS Structure" and
24 connects to USP2.	24 the next page is "Sentinel Structure."
25 Q Well, when you go down USP2, down this	25 A Right, but isn't the next structure a

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189	191
1 combination of the two or no?	Q By the way, on the chart for Sentinel,
Q No. It's well, yes, it looks	2 it shows that you have a 70 percent value, but it
3 like ah, it look like SAS Holdings is involved	3 says 91 percent vote. Do you see that?
4 somehow in Sentinel. Actually, now that you	4 A Yes.
5 mention it, it looks like SAS Holdings is somehow	Q Do you know why you have a greater
6 connected. Does any of that ring a bell with you?	6 voting share than your economic benefit in
7 A No, none of this rings a bell. I	7 Sentinel as it's set forth in this chart?
8 didn't know it was restructured, and I can't make	8 A No. Like I said, that's why I can't
9 heads of tails out of the prior restructuring.	9 make heads or tails of this. Like I can't
10 But hold on a second. So in a day or two when we	10 like, look a little further right, where it's
11 get the deposition transcript, aren't the exhibits	11 99 percent of value, 1 percent of the vote. I
12 included or no?	12 can't I can't seem to add up the value numbers
MR. TAYLOR: They are.	13 or the vote numbers. I must be missing something.
14 THE WITNESS: They are. Okay, good.	14 I couldn't do it on this chart or the other chart.
15 All right.	15 That's why I would like to review them in more
16 Q It may be.	16 detail.
17 A Yeah, Clay is saying they are. I just	17 Q Yeah, but as you sit here today, are
18 want to be able to look at this in more detail	18 you aware generally that you have a greater voting
19 then.	19 interest in Sentinel than you do an economic
20 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, is this a Highland	20 interest?
21 Capital document?	21 A No, I would have guessed it was 70/30
MR. CLUBOK: It is a Highland Capital	22 for both.
23 document produced by Highland Capital, Bates	23 Q Was there a law firm that helped you
24 labeled.	24 set up Sentinel Reinsurance, that you're aware of?
25 Q So as you sit here today, having seen	25 A I do not know.
190	192
1 this, as far as you know, you're not aware of any	Q Was there ever an analysis done, to
2 connection you had with SAS; is that correct?	2 your knowledge, of how much Sentinel Reinsurance
3 A I thought the ownership of SAS was	3 would owe if UBS's trial court decision was
4 didn't flow through to Scott and I. I thought	4 upheld?
5 there was some fee, some profitability sharing	5 MR. TAYLOR: I'm just going to object
6 potentially, but I thought the ownership was owned	6 to form.
7 by some to avoid operating a business offshore,	7 A I don't know.
8 sometimes I think there's charitable entities and	
	8 Q Do you know how much total payout there
9 stuff that are the owner for name purposes, and	9 has been from the insurance policy for any of the
9 stuff that are the owner for name purposes, and 10 that's how I thought SAS was structured, where if	9 has been from the insurance policy for any of the 10 purposes that you said that the policy was set up
9 stuff that are the owner for name purposes, and 10 that's how I thought SAS was structured, where if 11 there it would be possible to get some	9 has been from the insurance policy for any of the 10 purposes that you said that the policy was set up 11 for?
9 stuff that are the owner for name purposes, and 10 that's how I thought SAS was structured, where if 11 there it would be possible to get some 12 incentives or compensation out of it but that the	 9 has been from the insurance policy for any of the 10 purposes that you said that the policy was set up 11 for? 12 A I do not know.
9 stuff that are the owner for name purposes, and 10 that's how I thought SAS was structured, where if 11 there it would be possible to get some 12 incentives or compensation out of it but that the 13 ownership wasn't with Scott and I. That was my	 9 has been from the insurance policy for any of the 10 purposes that you said that the policy was set up 11 for? 12 A I do not know. 13 MR. CLUBOK: I think this is a good
9 stuff that are the owner for name purposes, and 10 that's how I thought SAS was structured, where if 11 there it would be possible to get some 12 incentives or compensation out of it but that the 13 ownership wasn't with Scott and I. That was my 14 memory, but, you know	9 has been from the insurance policy for any of the 10 purposes that you said that the policy was set up 11 for? 12 A I do not know. 13 MR. CLUBOK: I think this is a good 14 time to take a break.
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9 stuff that are the owner for name purposes, and 10 that's how I thought SAS was structured, where if 11 there it would be possible to get some 12 incentives or compensation out of it but that the 13 ownership wasn't with Scott and I. That was my 14 memory, but, you know 15 Q Okay. But you believe that you had 16 some economic interest in SAS; is that correct? 17 A You know, potentially, you know, but 18 I mean, but as far as I know, there hadn't been a 19 lot of realizations there. 20 Q Have you ever received any economic 21 benefit from SAS, as far as you know? 22 A No, I have not. 23 Q Has Scott Ellington, as far as you	9 has been from the insurance policy for any of the 10 purposes that you said that the policy was set up 11 for? 12 A I do not know. 13 MR. CLUBOK: I think this is a good 14 time to take a break. 15 MR. TAYLOR: That's good. So we have 16 to take another one at 6:00. Let's go off the 17 record. 18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off record. 6:03. 19 (A recess was taken.) 20 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On record. 6:24. 21 BY MR. CLUBOK: 22 Q Mr. Dondero, we're going to show you 23 what's previously been marked as Exhibit 1. It is
9 stuff that are the owner for name purposes, and 10 that's how I thought SAS was structured, where if 11 there it would be possible to get some 12 incentives or compensation out of it but that the 13 ownership wasn't with Scott and I. That was my 14 memory, but, you know 15 Q Okay. But you believe that you had 16 some economic interest in SAS; is that correct? 17 A You know, potentially, you know, but 18 I mean, but as far as I know, there hadn't been a 19 lot of realizations there. 20 Q Have you ever received any economic 21 benefit from SAS, as far as you know? 22 A No, I have not.	9 has been from the insurance policy for any of the 10 purposes that you said that the policy was set up 11 for? 12 A I do not know. 13 MR. CLUBOK: I think this is a good 14 time to take a break. 15 MR. TAYLOR: That's good. So we have 16 to take another one at 6:00. Let's go off the 17 record. 18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off record. 6:03. 19 (A recess was taken.) 20 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On record. 6:24. 21 BY MR. CLUBOK: 22 Q Mr. Dondero, we're going to show you

Conducted (on May 10, 2021
193	195
attachment called UBS_ATE.PDF.	1 Do you see that?
2 Do you see that?	2 A Yes.
3 A Yes.	Q And that's your signature, correct?
4 Q And Mr. Leventon said first of all,	4 A Yeah, or my assistant's, it looks like.
5 who is Chris Dunn?	5 It is either my signature or my assistant's.
6 A I believe he is one of the accountants	6 Q Well, it's an authorized signature by
7 who used to work at Highland.	7 you, correct?
8 Q Okay. And does he work with you now?	8 A Yes.
9 A I don't believe so. I don't recognize	9 Q And that's on behalf of one of the
10 that name.	10 insureds, Highland CDO Opportunity Master Fund,
11 Q And Mr. Leventon says to Mr. Dunn	11 LP, correct?
12 "Subject: UBS - PRIVILEGED." Do you see that?	12 A Yeah. Do you want me to read the
13 A Yes.	13 signature lines? You'll need to zoom in for me.
14 Q And he says, 'Please see attached.	14 But whoever it's signed for, it's signed for, I
15 Please label all communications related to this	15 guess.
16 project as Privileged as all documents are being	16 Q Okay. And it's also signed on behalf
17 requested of the Legal Team."	17 of Highland CDO Hold Company, correct?
Do you see that?	18 A Highland CDO Holding Company, yes.
19 A Yes.	19 Q And again, you signed on behalf of
20 Q And just scrolling down, there's	20 Highland CDO Holding Company as another one of the
21 nothing else in the cover e-mail, and I'm going to	21 insureds under the policy, correct?
22 show and I take it you have never seen this	A I don't know what the involvement is of
23 e-mail before?	23 the different entities, if they're all the insured
24 A No. No, I have not.	24 or they're just somehow somehow involved in the
Q Okay. So I'm going to show you the	25 agreement, but yes, I'm signing for those various
194	196
1 attachment and see if it refreshes your	1 different funds.
2 recollection. Let me get this a little bit	2 Q Well, so you sign this document on
3 smaller here.	3 behalf of Highland CDO Opportunity Master Fund,
This is a document the attachment is	4 LP, correct?
5 the legal liability insurance policy that we have	5 A Yes.
6 been talking about today. This is the first page	6 Q And you sign this document on behalf of
7 of it, where it's called "Legal Liability	7 Highland CDO Holding Company, correct?
8 Insurance Policy" in blue letters on the first	8 A Yes.
9 page.	9 Q And you sign on behalf of Highland
Do you see that?	10 Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct?
11 A Yes.	11 A Yes.
12 Q And I want to go I'm going to go	12 Q And you were the sole director of SOHC
13 through some of the policy with you. I'm going to	13 at the time, right?
14 flip first to the very end, the last page, the	14 A I I probably. I don't know.
15 signature page. And do you see where it says	Q And you were the sole director of
16 "Insurer: Sentinel Reinsurance, Limited," and it	16 Highland CDO Holding Company at the time, correct?
17 says, "Andrew Dean, Director"?	17 A I don't know.
18 A Yep.	Q Do you know can you name another
Q And then do you see where it says	19 director of Highland CDO Holding Company?
20 "Insureds," and the first insured is Highland CDO	20 A No.
21 Opportunity Master Fund, LP. And it says that you	21 Q And you were it says you were
22 are signing on behalf of CDO Opportunity Master	22 president. Is that president of Highland CDO
23 Fund by CDO Opportunity Fund, by CDO Opportunity	23 Opportunity Master Fund, LP?
24 GP, by Highland Capital Management and by Strand	24 A I don't know.
25 Advisors.	Q Or is it president of Strand Advisors?

Conducted on	Way 10, 2021
197	199
1 A I don't know.	1 when making the decision to sign on SOHC's behalf?
2 Q Were you president of Strand Advisors	2 A I don't know. I don't remember.
3 at that time?	Q Did you believe at the time you signed
4 Yes, I would have been. Yeah, if it	4 this document you had fiduciary duties to Highland
5 had a president, yes.	5 CDO Holding Company?
6 Q In August of 2017, did you have	6 A I don't know. I don't remember.
authority to sign a document like this on behalf	7 Q At the time you signed this document,
8 of Strand Advisors?	8 did you have fiduciary duties to Highland CDO
9 A I assume so.	9 Opportunity Master Fund that you took into account
Q And in August of 2017, did you have	10 before you signed it?
11 authority to sign a document like this on behalf	11 A I don't know. I don't remember.
12 of Highland Capital Management?	12 Q Do you believe that you had any in
13 A I assume so.	13 August of 2017 the UBS litigation was still going
14 Q In August 2017 did you have authority	14 on, correct? 15 A I think I testified I believe it was
15 to sign a document like this on behalf of Highland	
16 CDO Opportunity GP, LLC?	16 dormant.
A I believe so.	17 Q Well, in fact, in August of 2017 UBS
18 Q In August of 2017 did you have	18 had just defeated Highland and the other
19 authority to sign the insurance policy on behalf	19 defendants' motion for summary judgment; isn't
20 of Highland CDO Opportunity Fund GP?	20 that true?
21 A I believe so.	21 A Like I said, I don't know. My belief
Q In August of 2017 did you have the	22 was it was dormant.
23 authority to sign the insurance policy on behalf	23 Q Did you believe that you had any
24 of Highland CDO Opportunity Master Fund, LP?	24 fiduciary duties to consider to UBS, as a
25 A I believe so.	25 potential creditor of SOHC and CDO Fund, when you
198	200
1 Q In August of 2017 did you have the	1 signed this document in August of 2017?
2 authority to sign on behalf of Highland CDO	2 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.
2 Holding Company?	
3 Holding Company?	3 Q Okay. I'm going to break it down. In
4 A I believe so.	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any
4 A I believe so. 5 Q And fair to say that in August of 2017	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or
4 A I believe so.	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any
4 A I believe so. 5 Q And fair to say that in August of 2017	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or
4 A I believe so. 5 Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 6 you had the authority to sign off on this	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company?
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct?	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A II do not I do not believe or
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so.	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A I I do not I do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A I I do not I do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS.
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A I I do not I do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care 12 to familiarize yourself with the terms of it?	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A I I do not I do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct?
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care 12 to familiarize yourself with the terms of it? A No.	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A II do notI do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct? 13 A Yes.
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care to familiarize yourself with the terms of it? A No. Q Did you have a fiduciary duty at the	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A I I do not I do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct? 13 A Yes. 14 Q And the same answer for Highland CDO
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A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care 12 to familiarize yourself with the terms of it? A No. Q Did you have a fiduciary duty at the 15 time to Highland Special Opportunities Holding 16 Company when you signed this policy?	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A II do notI do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct? 13 A Yes. 14 Q And the same answer for Highland CDO 15 Opportunity Master Fund? 16 A Yes.
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care 12 to familiarize yourself with the terms of it? A No. Q Did you have a fiduciary duty at the 15 time to Highland Special Opportunities Holding 16 Company when you signed this policy? A I fiduciary as a registered	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A I I do not I do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct? 13 A Yes. 14 Q And the same answer for Highland CDO 15 Opportunity Master Fund? 16 A Yes. 17 Q Same answer for Highland Financial
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care to familiarize yourself with the terms of it? A No. Q Did you have a fiduciary duty at the time to Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company when you signed this policy? A I fiduciary as a registered investment advisor, I assume I assume we did. J I don't know to the extent the fund doesn't	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A II do notI do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct? 13 A Yes. 14 Q And the same answer for Highland CDO 15 Opportunity Master Fund? 16 A Yes. 17 Q Same answer for Highland Financial 18 Partners? 19 A Yes.
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care 12 to familiarize yourself with the terms of it? A No. Q Did you have a fiduciary duty at the 15 time to Highland Special Opportunities Holding 16 Company when you signed this policy? A I fiduciary as a registered 18 investment advisor, I assume I assume we did. 19 I don't know to the extent the fund doesn't 20 exist anymore, I I don't know the answer. Let	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A II do notI do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct? 13 A Yes. 14 Q And the same answer for Highland CDO 15 Opportunity Master Fund? 16 A Yes. 17 Q Same answer for Highland Financial 18 Partners? 19 A Yes. 20 Q You now know, sitting here today, that
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care 12 to familiarize yourself with the terms of it? A No. Q Did you have a fiduciary duty at the 15 time to Highland Special Opportunities Holding 16 Company when you signed this policy? A I fiduciary as a registered 18 investment advisor, I assume I assume we did. 19 I don't know to the extent the fund doesn't 20 exist anymore, I I don't know the answer. Let 21 me just say that.	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A II do notI do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct? 13 A Yes. 14 Q And the same answer for Highland CDO 15 Opportunity Master Fund? 16 A Yes. 17 Q Same answer for Highland Financial 18 Partners? 19 A Yes. 20 Q You now know, sitting here today, that 21 a Court has found that SOHC and CDO Fund
A I believe so. Q And fair to say that in August of 2017 you had the authority to sign off on this insurance policy on behalf of Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company, correct? A I believe so. Q And before you signed off on this 11 \$100 million insurance policy, did you take care 12 to familiarize yourself with the terms of it? A No. Q Did you have a fiduciary duty at the 15 time to Highland Special Opportunities Holding 16 Company when you signed this policy? A I fiduciary as a registered 18 investment advisor, I assume I assume we did. 19 I don't know to the extent the fund doesn't 20 exist anymore, I I don't know the answer. Let 21 me just say that. 22 Q Well, when you acted in August 2017 on	4 August of 2017, did you believe that you owed any 5 fiduciary duties at all to UBS as a creditor or 6 potential creditor of Highland Special 7 Opportunities Holding Company? 8 A I I do not I do not believe or 9 recall believing that I had any fiduciary 10 responsibility to UBS. 11 Q With respect to its status as a 12 creditor or potential creditor of SOHC, correct? 13 A Yes. 14 Q And the same answer for Highland CDO 15 Opportunity Master Fund? 16 A Yes. 17 Q Same answer for Highland Financial 18 Partners? 19 A Yes. 20 Q You now know, sitting here today, that 21 a Court has found that SOHC and CDO Fund 22 collectively owe to UBS over \$500 million, plus
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Conducted on	May 10, 2021	
201		203
1 Q Well, you know that there has been a	1 is in favor of UBS?	
2 judgment after a trial that found SOHC and CDO	2 A I have not.	
3 Fund liable to UBS for over \$500 million, plus	3 Q Do you feel you currently owe any	
4 accumulated interest, since 2009, correct?	4 fiduciary duties to UBS in your capacity as	
5 A I don't know the specifics of the	5 director of SOHC?	
6 award, but generally I know there is a significant	6 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Assumes facts	
7 award.	7 not in evidence.	
8 Q Well, you know generally that the award	8 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. Strike that.	
9 today totals roughly a billion dollars or more,	9 Restate that.	
10 correct?	10 Q I take it you have recently resigned	
MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.	11 your position as director of SOHC?	
12 A Again, I don't know the mix, I don't	12 A I believe so.	
13 know the specifics. You mentioned a minute ago a	13 Q That was done just within the last week	
14 total to 550, and then you said it was a billion.	14 or so?	
15 So I don't know I don't know the details and	15 A I believe so.	
16 the specifics.	16 Q Prior to resigning as director of SOHC,	
17 Q Okay. Let's make it very simple. As	17 did you ever consider that you had fiduciary	
18 you sit here today, you know that there is a	18 duties owed to UBS in connection with the judgment	
19 pending judgment against SOHC and CDO Fund for a	19 entered against SOHC on behalf of UBS?	
20 total of over a billion dollars, including	20 A I I don't recall.	
21 interest, correct?	21 Q Are you currently a director of	
22 A I I don't know. And I don't know	22 Highland's sorry.	
23 if a pending judgment, I don't know if it's	23 Do you currently have any role in	
24 appealable, I don't know if it is being appealed.	24 Highland CDO Opportunity Master Fund?	
25 I have no idea.	25 A I don't know.	
202		204
1 Q You have absolutely no idea if there is	1 MR. CLUBOK: We're going to mark as an	
2 an outstanding judgment right now against SOHC and	2 exhibit the document that is Bates labeled	
3 CDO Fund for approximately a billion dollars in	3 HCMUBS005324, and that will be, I think,	
4 favor of UBS? That's your testimony?	4 Exhibit 29.	
5 A You said a minute ago a pending	5 That must be right. Whoops, sorry, no,	
6 judgment. Now you're saying it's a judgment. I	6 this is the wrong document.	
7 have no idea what the legal status is.	7 Sorry. We'll find the document here in	
8 Q Do you know that there was a judgment	8 a second. I'm trying to find the letter that you	
9 entered against SOHC and CDO Fund for over a	9 recently sent to the lawyers representing the	
10 billion dollars, including interest, in favor of	10 debtor in which you tendered your resignation.	
11 UBS in connection with the New York litigation?	I think, Alan, you may have pulled the	
12 A I don't know the specifics. I don't	12 wrong number. Let's try this again. It's	
13 know the specific counterparties.	13 HCMUBS005324.	
14 Q Do you know? So is that a no to my	14 It should be a letter. There we go.	
15 question?	15 Thank you. Sorry, maybe I missaw it or something	
16 A Yes. I don't know.	16 if you had it before.	
17 Q Have you made any effort to consider	17 Q Anyway, let's take a look at this.	
18 whether or not SOHC owes any money currently to	18 This is a letter dated	
19 UBS?	MR. CLUBOK: And we're going to make	
20 A I have not.	20 this one Exhibit 29, correct?	
21 Q Have you made any effort to consider	Yes. Perfect.	
22 whether currently CDO Fund owes any money to UBS?	22 (Deposition Exhibit 29 marked for	
23 A I have not.	23 identification.)	
Q Have you ever taken any steps to try to	24 Q Exhibit 29 is a letter dated April 28,	
25 satisfy any judgment against SOHC or CDO Fund that	25 2021 from Bonds Ellis to Mr. James Seery, care of	

	May 10, 2021
205	207
1 Jeffrey Pomerantz. Do you see that?	1 want to it was sometime 2017 or earlier, you
2 A Yes.	2 know, essentially.
3 Q And it's 'RE: Resignation of James	3 Q Sorry, you believe that you were no
4 Dondero from Defendant Entities in UBS, et al.	4 longer a director of SOHC earlier than 2017?
5 versus HCMLP, et al., Index No. 650097/2009 (N.Y.	5 A You know what, it's I don't want to
7 A Yes.	7 that the entity was not functioning normally or
8 Q Have you seen this letter before?	8 routinely as far as corporate governance was
9 A It was prepared by counsel. I have	9 concerned, and I was probably the last surviving
10 seen it.	10 director who tried to wrap it up responsibly with
11 Q And it was signed by Mr. Clay Taylor,	11 the 2017 policy.
12 who is representing you here today, correct?	12 Q Okay. You were the only director ever
13 A Yes.	13 in the history of SOHC; isn't that true?
14 Q And you saw it after it was complete	14 A I don't know. HFP had numerous
15 and either before or after it was sent to the	15 directors originally
16 Mr. Seery?	16 Q I didn't ask you about HFP, okay? In
17 A Yes.	17 the interest of time here, I would like you to
18 Q And you authorized this letter to go	18 answer the questions that I ask. You were the
19 out under your	19 sole director of SOHC from its inception, correct?
20 MR. CLUBOK: Strike that.	20 A I don't know.
21 Q You authorized this letter to go out?	21 Q When you signed in August of 2017, did
22 A Yes.	22 you believe you were still the director of SOHC?
23 Q And in the letter you, in addition to	23 A Yes.
24 Mr. Taylor, are describing a number of things. He	24 Q Did you check with any other or were
25 says that you are hereby immediately resigning	25 you aware of any other directors in the world of
	·
206 1 from "alleged director position(s) at HFP and SOHC	1 SOHC other than yourself at that time?
2 and/or any other officer positions at those	
3 entities."	3 remember.
4 Do you see that?	4 Q Okay. So as far as you knew, you were
- A - 37	
5 A Yes.	5 the sole director of SOHC in August 2017, correct?
6 Q Now, before you sent this letter, did	 5 the sole director of SOHC in August 2017, correct? 6 A No. I didn't know is my testimony.
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6 Q Now, before you sent this letter, did 7 you believe that you were a director in SOHC? 8 A No. 9 Q When did you but you used to be a 10 director at SOHC, correct? 11 A Many years ago. 12 Q Well, you certainly were a director in 13 SOHC when you signed on their behalf in August of 14 2017 for the insurance policy, correct? 15 A Yes. 16 Q So when did you stop being a director 17 of SOHC? 18 A I mean, prior to 2017 it had been 19 inactive for a number of years, and, again, my 20 view and recollection is the insurance policy was 21 to transition and wrap up the dissolution, so to 22 speak, responsibly.	5 the sole director of SOHC in August 2017, correct? 6 A No. I didn't know is my testimony. 7 Q Okay. You didn't check to see if there 8 were other directors when you signed on behalf of 9 SOHC; is that correct? 10 A Correct. 11 Q And were you still a director of SOHC 12 in August 2017 when you signed that insurance 13 policy? 14 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Asked and 15 answered. 16 A I believe so. 17 Q Okay. And when and you resigned in 18 this letter that you sent or that Mr. Taylor 19 sent April 28, 2021, correct? 20 A Yes. 21 Q And so fair to say you were a director 22 of SOHC for August 2017 until this resignation

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Transcript of James Dondero Conducted on May 10, 2021

remember doing a single activity between 2017 and 1 connection with the UBS litigation. So even if today on behalf of SOHC. Mr. Feinstein didn't have a problem with it, this Q Who directed SOHC's litigation strategy has already been waived. But I assume, in 2018 and 2019? Mr. Feinstein, you don't have a problem with this A I believe Scott Ellington. line of questioning? Q Who was ultimately responsible for MR. FEINSTEIN: I don't, to the extent SOHC, as far as you knew, during those years? that there is some question about whether SAS was A Ultimately Scott Ellington through involved in the decision making. And, as we said, our waiver extends to Sentinel- and SAS-related Sentinel. 10 Q You're saying Sentinel was responsible 10 matters. 11 for SOHC starting in August 2017 going forward? MR. CLUBOK: Okay. 11 A My general understanding is that the 12 Q So Mr. Dondero, again, my question is, 13 Sentinel policy took over the transition 13 did you ever hear about any settlement demands 14 responsibilities for SOHC, meaning the legal 14 from UBS in between August 2017 and the time you 15 strategies or any other legal issues that cropped 15 filed for bankruptcy? 16 up or any tax issues. So if you're talking about 16 A I did not hear of any. 17 the period between the policy and today, I would 17 MR. CLUBOK: The next document I want 18 have guessed that Sentinel was handling them. 18 to put up is the responsive letter that was sent O Who was able to make the decision as to 19 in response to Exhibit 29. That's going to be 20 whether or not to settle the litigation with UBS 20 Bates number 5322. And that will be marked as 21 on behalf of SOHC after August of 2017, as far as 21 Exhibit 30. 22 you knew? 2.2. (Deposition Exhibit 30 marked for 23 A That would have been Scott Ellington. 23 identification.) Q Did you have any role at all in the Q Exhibit 30 is a letter sent via e-mail 25 decision of whether or not SOHC would settle after 25 from Jeffrey Pomerantz to your lawyer, Clay 210 212 August of 2017? Taylor, dated May 7, 2021. Do you see that? A Until the -- I had never -- you asked 2 2 A Uh-huh. 3 me this earlier today. I had never heard of other 3 Q Is that a yes? 4 UBS settlement offers until the August of '19 4 A Yes. I see that. 5 settlement. 5 Q And it's the same Re line, the same Q Did you have any authority to decide "Resignation of James Dondero from the Defendant 7 whether or not SOHC would settle between August of Entities" in the New York UBS litigation, correct? 8 2017 and that time of the bankruptcy? A Yes. A I don't know. Because I haven't read 9 Q Have you seen a copy of this letter 10 the insurance policy, I don't know where 10 before today? 11 responsibilities begin and end between SOHC and A Yes. 11 12 Sentinel. Q Okay. And without reading all of it, Q Did you ever hear about any settlement 13 I'm going to briefly summarize. Mr. Pomerantz 14 demands from UBS in between August 2017 and the 14 says he's in receipt of the letter where James 15 time that you filed for bankruptcy? 15 Dondero resigned from his positions in connection A So --16 with HFP and SOHC, and then he notes that you're 16 17 MR. TAYLOR: To the extent that that 17 also, at least as of the time of writing this 18 letter, "a director of Highland CDO Opportunity 18 asks for him to invade the attorney-client 19 privilege, I don't believe -- but subject to 19 Fund, the Bermuda feeder fund for the Highland CDO 20 Highland Capital's counsel potentially saying 20 Opportunity Fund," also called "the CDO Fund," 21 they've waived that, I'm going instruct him not to 21 collectively. And he asks to confirm immediately 22 answer. I understood that to be further than what 22 whether you are 'resigning from HCDOF and all 23 other subsidiaries of HCDOF as well." And I 23 they waived. 24 MR. CLUBOK: Mr. Dondero has already 24 believe, as far as I know, there has never been a 25 testified about alleged settlement offers in 25 formal response to that.

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But my question is, as you sit here	1 the see, I didn't see any do you see any
2 today, are you a director of Highland CDO	2 Ltd any Bermuda funds here? I just didn't see
3 Opportunity Fund?	3 it at first glance.
4 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Form.	4 Q I don't know. It would have to be
5 A I don't know, and I don't know. And	5 Ltd.?
6 when I got this letter, I wasn't sure of its	6 A See, I wasn't sure that any of these
7 relevance relative to the insurance policy. I	7 impacted Bermuda.
8 didn't remember Bermuda entities being relevant to	8 Q Well, in okay.
9 the HFP structure.	9 How is CDO Opportunity Master Fund
	10 connected to CDO Fund that says Ltd. on it?
10 Q Okay. Well, are you resigning from CDO 11 Fund if you are currently a director?	11 A I have no idea.
12 MR. TAYLOR: Objection as to the form	12 Q Previously you said that you didn't
13 of the question.	13 remember signing the insurance policy, correct?
14 A I don't know. I mean, we were going to	14 A Correct.
15 look into it on whether I was a director and we	
16 were going to look into it if it had any relevance	15 Q Does seeing this now refresh your 16 recollection that you did sign the insurance
17 or any relevance or effect on the rest of it,	17 policy on behalf of three different entities?
18 and we hadn't decided yet.	18 A No, not really.
19 Q Well, do you know that CDO Fund is one	19 Q But you authorized your signature on
20 of the defendants in the New York litigation?	20 this policy, correct?
21 A Is it one of the entities that was	
22 found guilty or owing money? 23 Q Yes.	 Q And before you authorized the policy MR. CLUBOK: Well, strike that.
`	
24 A Okay. I didn't know that. So we 25 need we needed to look into that.	Q So when you authorized it, you knew you
	25 were authorizing it not just on behalf of SOHC or
1 Q Okay. I take it you made no effort to	1 CDO Holding Company, but also on behalf of
try to satisfy any portion of the judgment thatwas entered against CDO Fund on behalf of UBS?	
4 A I don't believe so.	
5 Q And do you have any idea right now if 6 you have any responsibility for CDO Fund, either	
	6 A No. I didn't know. I delegated it to 7 him. I didn't I didn't review the signature
7 as a director, an officer, owner or anything like 8 that?	9
	8 lines and the appropriateness of the signature
9 A I don't know.	9 lines individually or in aggregate. I trusted him
10 Q When was the last time you did you	10 to have the appropriate signature lines for what
 11 took any actions with respect to CDO Fund? 12 A Not that I can remember at this moment. 	11 he was trying to accomplish. 12 Q Going back to the first page here of
13 None that I can remember at this moment.	
	13 the insurance policy, it's called the "Legal
14 Q When do you well, when do you intend	14 Liability Insurance Policy,"correct? 15 A It appears so, yes.
15 to decide whether or not you are going to resign	
16 from being a director of CDO Fund?	Q And on the first page, 1.1 and I'm
17 A I don't know. Soon, I would imagine.	17 going to expand it so you can read it it says,
18 Q Okay. Well, please let us know if you	18 "This policy is between the insured and the insurer as declared in the schedule. The
19 intend to resign from CDO Fund.	
20 Let's go back to Exhibit 1. This is	20 document, together with its schedule and any
21 the insurance policy. We're back on this last	21 attached endorsements, is the policy which sets
22 page, and you can see here there is CDO Fund that	22 out this insurance. It is a legal contract so
23 you signed on behalf of as one of the insureds.	23 please read all of it carefully."
24 Do you see that?	Do you see that?
25 A I'm sorry, my eyes are so bad, but	25 A Yes.

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1 THE WITNESS: You know, guys, listen, I	1 Q Do you is he still the appointed
2 got to jump on this call. I will make it as	2 representative for this insurance policy, as far
3 quickly as possible, hopefully less than a half an	3 as you know?
4 hour. Okay?	4 A I don't I don't know. I don't know
5 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. We'll be here at	5 if it's been changed. He doesn't work Lackey
6 6:30. Let's go off the record.	6 Hershman doesn't exist anymore. It merged with
7 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record.	7 another firm.
8 6:59.	8 Q What firm?
9 (A recess was taken.)	9 A You know what, actually, I think I
10 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On record. 7:39.	10 misspoke. I don't think they merged. I think a
11 BY MR. CLUBOK:	11 firm called Stinson took four or five of the
12 Q Let's go back to Exhibit 1.	12 partners into their firm.
Exhibit 1 was the e-mail from Isaac	13 Q Including Paul Lackey?
14 Leventon claiming privilege and attaching a copy	14 A Yes.
15 of this insurance policy that we have been talking	15 Q Did you fire Mr. Lackey from all the
16 about, correct?	16 representation he had of your various entities?
17 A Yes.	17 A No, I don't no, I don't believe so.
Q So in 1.1 it said that because it's a	18 Q You had Mr. Lackey replaced as the
19 legal contract, you should 'please read all of it	19 person in charge of the litigation of the UBS
20 carefully." Did you read all of this carefully,	20 case, correct?
21 ever?	21 A Yes. Yeah, so we yes, we use
22 A No.	22 them they ran into a lot of personal midlife
Q It says the "policy is between the	23 issues, a couple of partners, and so we started
24 insured and the insurer as declared in the	24 replacing them on a lot of things.
25 schedule." Let's go look at the schedule, which	25 Q In other words, you fired them from
218	220
1 is towards the back of the document, I think right	1 most of the cases they were working on for you,
before the signature page. And the schedule for	2 correct?
the insurance policy says the insurer is Sentinel	3 A From yes, from a bunch of them.
4 Reinsurance, Limited. That was your	4 Q And you don't know if you've appointed
5 understanding, correct?	5 another representative to replace Mr. Lackey in
6 A Yes.	6 connection with this insurance policy?
Q And then it says the "Insured," and it	7 A I don't know.
	8 Q Do you see where it says "Date of
8 lists three entities, "Highland CDO Opportunity9 Master Fund, LP," "Highland CDO Holding Company"	9 commencement of the Period of Insurance" is
10 and 'Highland Special Opportunities Holding	10 August 1st, 2017?
11 Company."	11 A Yes.
Do you see that?	12 Q And later on it lists the payment date
13 A Yes.	13 for the premium as August 31st, 2017, correct?
Q Does this refresh your recollection	14 A Yes.
15 that there were three insureds specifically	Q And that's consistent with your
16 identified in the policy?	16 recollection that you were approving this policy
17 A Okay, yeah. I didn't know, but yeah,	17 in approximately August of 2017, correct?
18 that seems to say it.	18 A Yes.
19 Q You're claiming that you never knew	Q And then do you see where it says
20 before today that all three of those entities were	20 "Legal Action"?
21 listed as the insureds?	21 A Yes.
22 A Correct.	Q And it specifically identifies "UBS
23 Q Appointed representative is Paul	23 Securities LLC and UBS AG, London Branch versus
24 Lackey. Do you see that?	24 Highland Capital Management, LP; Highland Special
25 A Yes.	25 Opportunities Holding Company; Highland Financial
•	

221 223 1 Partners, LP; Highland CDO Opportunity Master 1 understood this to be a transitional policy. That 2 Fund, LP; Highland Credit Opportunities CDO, LP; was the original intent and how it was described and Strand Advisors, Inc., Cause Number to me. If it ended up taking twists and turns and 4 650097/2009." being more focused, I wasn't aware of. And then I Do you see that? 5 see it's only UBS on the schedule -- on the known 6 schedule addendum here. But I haven't seen this 6 A Yes. Q That's the only legal action identified 7 before. I haven't looked through it. We haven't in this schedule to this insurance policy, 8 gone through the other pages. Whether or not it 9 references other litigation or tax -- potential correct? 10 A The only one identified on this page, 10 tax or other litigation stuff, I don't know. So I 11 can't -- I can't say that this is the only thing 11 yes. 12 Q Well, the previous page -- I'll go to 12 it represents. I don't know. 13 the previous page so you can see it. The previous 13 Q Right. But as you sit here today, you 14 page was page 16 of 16 that had a blank signature 14 have no basis to say that this policy is directed 15 page after the end of the policy terms. Do you 15 at anything other than UBS other than your pure 16 see that? 16 speculation or wish, correct? 17 A Yep. 17 A Well, as it was described to me, but 18 Q And then there is the schedule, and 18 also, we haven't gone over the rest of the 19 then the next page after the schedule is the 19 document. And just maybe this was the only action 20 signed signature page. Do you see that? 20 that was known at the time. I -- I --21 A Yep. 21 Q Right. And --Q Okay. So are you aware of any other A If you want to ask me about the four 23 schedule to this policy other than the one that 23 corners of this document, it says what it says, 24 identifies only the UBS litigation as the legal 24 and you're right, it says -- that's the only legal 25 action? 25 action it says, but I can't -- I can't comment on 222 224 A I'm not aware of anything else. 1 the rest of the policy. Q And it specifically says the opponent Q That wasn't my question, to ask you to is UBS Securities LLC and UBS AG, London Branch, comment. We're going to go through the policy, 4 right? but that's not what I asked you. So please listen 5 A Yes. carefully to my question. As you sit here right now, you have no Q It says the limit of indemnity is 6 \$100 million in the aggregate, correct? 7 basis to say that this policy is directed at A Yes. 8 anything other than the UBS litigation other than 9 pure speculation or a wish on your part, correct? Q And you had remembered it was a 10 \$100 million insurance policy, correct? 10 MR. TAYLOR: Objection. Misstates his 11 prior testimony. Q Then it says the premium is A Yeah, I wouldn't say a wish. That's 12 13 \$25 million, right? 13 how it was described to me historically. That's A Yes. 14 what I remember. 15 Q Now, fair to say this policy is 15 Q Described to you by Scott Ellington. 16 directed at potential liability in connection with 16 A Yes. 17 the UBS litigation that's been pending in New York 17 Q And you're saying that Scott Ellington 18 since 2009, correct? 18 said that this policy would cover something beyond 19 the UBS litigation, correct? A I'm sorry, repeat that, please. Q Fair to say that this insurance policy 20 A Yes, I believe that was -- yes, that's 21 is specifically directed at potential liability 21 what I remember, and I think that was the original 22 arising out of the UBS litigation that's been 22 intent. 23 pending in New York since 2009? 23 Q Yeah, but when you signed it, did A I'm going to stay consistent with my 24 you --MR. CLUBOK: Strike that. 25 testimony that I have said all day that I 25

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225 1 Q You think it was the original intent,	Do you see that?
2 in fact, for the policy to not even have a main	2 A Yes.
	3 Q Now, do you know enough to have a
4 something else, as you previously have stated,	, ·
5 right?	5 gibberish to you or do you have an
6 A Yeah, like I said, to provide 7 transition and windup for the HFP funds and	6 understanding
•	7 A I mean, I think what it's I it's
8 subsidiaries.	8 not gibberish, but what it's really saying, I
9 Q Yeah, but as you sit here today, other	9 think, is there's offsets for legal fees, there's
10 than what Mr. Ellington supposedly told you, you	10 offsets for other expenses and other indemnities
11 have no basis to support your statement that this	11 or assets I yeah, you know what, I don't
12 policy was directed at anything other than the UBS	12 understand. I would need I would need an
13 litigation and potential liability related	13 actuary or whoever decides these things to explain
14 thereto, correct?	14 it to me.
15 MR. TAYLOR: Objection to the form of	15 Q Okay. So then we move on. 1.32 just
16 the question.	16 says that there is additional whoops,
17 A I don't have other knowledge of other	17 "Additional clauses set out terms, exclusions or
18 cases addressed by this insurance.	18 limitations that may apply to more than one
19 Q Okay. And we're going to go to the	19 insured section." And it says, "The following
20 first page again of the policy, and picking up	20 general terms apply to each insured section." And
21 where we left off, we now know the policy is	21 it lists general exclusions and limitations,
22 between the insured and the insurer as declared in	22 duties, general terms, and general definitions.
23 the schedule, and that we've already covered	Then in the next section, sorry, it
24 what the schedule says, correct?	24 says the "Policy period and premium." It says,
25 A Yep.	25 "The policy will provide insurance for a period of
1 Q So then it says words in bold have	1 insurance provided the premium and other charges
	1 insurance provided the premium and other charges 2 are paid." And the premium is \$25 million,
2 specific meanings. Then it says the "Policy 3 Structure," and I'm going to make it a little bit	3 correct?
4 bigger here.	4 A That's what it said on the schedule,
5 It says, "Each insured section sets out	5 yes.
6 the scope of the main coverage and the	6 Q Okay. We're going to skip down to
7 circumstances in which the insurer's liability to	7 "Insured section," where it says, "Legal
8 the insured is limited or may be excluded.	8 liability," and under "Insured section - Legal
9 Further, each insured section," and that's	9 liability," it says, "The insurer agrees to
10 "insured section" is in bold, "sets out other	10 indemnify the insured in respect of any legal
11 terms and conditions relevant to that insured	11 liability occurring during the period of insurance
12 section. The cover provided by each insured	12 up to and including but not exceeding the limit of
13 section is only operative if a limit of indemnity	13 indemnity provided that either the Court (or any
14 is shown in the schedule. Where the limit of	14 appellate court to which the Court's judgment in
15 indemnity in respect of any item in the schedule	15 the legal action is appealed) makes an order of
16 is shown as 'n/a,' 'not applicable' or 'not	16 liability relating to the legal action against the
17 insured,' then no cover applies for that item.	17 insured; or the legal action is (with the prior
18 Where the insured comprises more than one person,	18 written agreement of the insured, the appointed
19 the limit of indemnity for all claims made by all	19 representative and the insurer) settled on terms
20 persons comprising the insured shall apply, but as	20 that provide for payment by the insured to the
21 there is no sublimit of indemnity in relation to	21 opponent."
22 each individual person, one or more of those	22 Do you see that?
23 persons will not receive payment of a claim if the	23 A Yes.
24 limit of indemnity has already been met as a	24 Q And when it talks about the legal
25 result of the payment of other claims."	25 action, that's a "legal action" is a bold
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1 phrase, correct?	1 make sure it's a bona fide claim.	
2 A Yes.	2 Q When you authorized this policy, did	
3 Q And on the schedule that we looked at	3 you expect that it could be difficult to collect	
4 before, which I'm going to skip back to, the legal	4 under the terms of the policy, given what you have	
5 action lists the UBS legal action and nothing	5 said about insurance companies?	
6 else, correct?	6 A I don't remember having any thoughts on	
7 A Yes.	7 that subject.	
8 Q So, do you know if a claim has ever	8 Q How much total legal fees have been	
9 been made under this policy?	9 paid out pursuant to this policy?	
10 A I have no idea.	10 A I have no idea.	
11 Q Do you know if there has been any	MR. CLUBOK: We're going to turn to	
12 payments authorized under this policy?	12 what's been what's behind Tab number 3, and I	
13 A I have no idea.	13 believe it is Exhibit number	
14 Q You say you have no idea. Isn't it	14 REMOTE TECH: That would be 31.	
15 true you have authorized payments under this	MR. CLUBOK: 31. Thank you.	
16 policy before?	16 (Deposition Exhibit 31 marked for	
17 A I'm willing to be refreshed. Do you	17 identification.)	
18 mean payment of legal fees or I'm willing to be	18 Q We are going to turn to Exhibit 31,	
19 refreshed.	19 which is a letter from McKool Smith dated	
20 Q Yeah, have you authorized payment of	20 October 19th, 2018, from Gary Cruciani to Jim	
21 legal fees pursuant to this policy?	21 Dondero.	
22 A I don't remember. I mean, it sounds	Now, do you you recall the UBS trial	
23 logical, but I don't remember.	23 occurred in late summer of 20 or in the summer	
24 Q And you have no idea if a claim has	24 of 2018, correct?	
25 ever been made under this policy?	25 A Okay.	
230	232	
1 A I have no idea.	1 Q Did you pay attention to the trial when	
2 Q You know that this policy on its face	2 it was going on?	
3 applies to legal liability in connection with the	3 A No.	
4 UBS litigation in New York, correct?	4 Q Did you ever get a report of how the	
5 A Generally, I guess, or maybe that's	5 trial went after it was concluded?	
6 what you mean by "on its face." But whether and	6 A Not that I remember.	
7 how a claim is paid or whether it's bona fide, you	7 Q But you got a report when the decision	
8 know, there's a whole cottage industry that	8 was handed down by the judge awarding over a	
9 develops up around that. We	9 billion dollars, including interest, correct?	
10 Q Have you made any oh, sorry. You	10 A You mean the more recent case? Is that	
11 can continue.	11 what you're the 2020 case?	
12 A No, I was just going to say we've tried	12 Q It was in the end of 2019, I believe.	
13 to collect on insurance before too and it's not	13 In November of 2019 there was a decision issued in	
14 easy.	14 that case, right after you had gone into	
15 Q Insurance companies don't make it easy	15 bankruptcy, a few weeks later, in which a decision	
16 sometimes, correct?	16 was handed down awarding over a billion dollars, 17 including interest.	
17 A That's right.		
18 Q And is that Sentinel Re's policy, to 19 not make it easy for someone to collect on a	Do you remember that? 19 A Yes.	
20 premium on a policy?	20 Q And before that decision was handed	
21 MR. TAYLOR: Objection to the form of	21 down but after the case was tried, so when people	
22 the question.	22 didn't know what the result was, Mr. Cruciani	
23 A No, I'm not making a comment. I'm just	23 wrote to you and asked you to pay the legal fees	
24 saying, especially on a large policy, the	24 that had been incurred from trying the case. Do	
25 insurance company, I think, is always going to	25 you remember that?	
25 mourance company, 1 mink, is atways going to	23 your emember that:	

233 235 A I do not remember, but refresh me. I'm Q Do you remember negotiating this payment schedule with Mr. Cruciani? okay. 3 Q Okay. So I'm showing you Exhibit 31, 3 A Not specifically. 4 and it lists a number of different actions. It Q Mr. Cruciani was a lawyer that you hired to help you in these five cases that he says, "Re: Redeemer Committee versus Highland 6 Capital, the Delaware Action." identifies in the Re line in Exhibit 31, right? A Yeah. A Yes. 8 O Then 'Redeemer Committee versus 8 Q And did you think Mr. Cruciani did a 9 Highland Capital, the Crusader Arbitration." Then good job for you? 10 it lists the UBS case, which they call 'the UBS A It depends matter by matter. I think 11 Case," in New York. Then they list the case of 11 they know they were weak on the Acis matter, but 12 Highland versus Acis, which they call "the 12 that might have been Jernigan related. 13 Terry/162 case" -- or "Terry/162nd Case." And 13 Q How about the UBS case? 14 then they list the case against Alvarez and 14 A I don't have an opinion. I don't 15 Marsal, which they call "the A&M Case." 15 remember. Do you see that? Q Okay. But you -- when Mr. Cruciani 16 17 A Yes. 17 sent you this letter, the schedule had already 18 Q The letter that's been marked as 18 been agreed upon and he is just sending this to 19 Exhibit 31 from Gary Cruciani of McKool Smith 19 confirm it, correct? 20 references five separate actions. 20 A That's right. It would have been 21 Do you see that? 21 negotiated by Ellington and the legal team. I 22 A Yes. 22 didn't -- I just signed it. 23 Q And Mr. Cruciani says to you, 23 Q But you signed off on this schedule 24 "Mr. Dondero, With regard to the fees and expenses 24 that would pay him approximately \$6 million 25 that McKool Smith has incurred in the 25 between October 31st, 2018 and December 31st, 2018 234 236 1 above-referenced cases, and has billed to Highland 1 for those five cases that he notes at the top of 2 Capital Management, LP and its affiliates Exhibit 31, correct? 3 (collectively, 'Highland'), Highland agrees to pay 3 A Yes. 4 amounts according to the following schedule 4 Q And then you -- there's a note. It 5 towards the balances owed by Highland. The looks like it might have been a Post-it Note that got copied that says "50/50 Sentinel." Do you see 6 Payment Schedule will apply toward the invoiced 7 balances but shall not be in satisfaction of the 7 that? 8 entire amounts. Payments made pursuant to the 8 A Yes. 9 Payment Schedule will be without waiver or 9 Q Is that your handwriting? 10 prejudice to the entitlement to payment on 10 A No. 11 remaining unpaid balances" and Highland's right to Q Do you know whose it is? 11 12 contest it, et cetera. 12 And then there is a payment schedule Q Did you ever direct Sentinel to take 14 which says that Highland will pay McKool Smith 14 responsibility for some of this payment schedule 15 \$2 million by October 31st, 2018, another 15 that you agreed to in Exhibit 31 with 16 \$2 million by November 30th, 2018, and a third 16 Mr. Cruciani? 17 \$2 million by December 31st, 2018. 17 A No. I wouldn't have been the one that Do you see that? 18 18 decided legal fee allocations. Q Now, how much of that \$6 million was as 19 A Yes. 20 a result of the UBS case as opposed to all the Q And a little bit farther down it says, 21 "Agreed on behalf of Highland Capital Management, 21 other cases? Any idea? 22 LP by Strand Advisors, its general partner," and 22 A No idea. 23 it's signed by you. Q Any idea, rough percentage? Is it half 24 Do you see that? 24 the amount? Is it two thirds of the amount? Is 25 A Yes. 25 it --

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1 A No idea.	1 covered by the insurance policy that we have been	
2 Q 10 percent?	2 talking about today is the UBS case, correct?	
3 A No idea.	3 A Yes.	
4 Q Any clue?	4 Q Do you know if Isaac Leventon had	
5 A No idea.	5 authority to authorize payments from Sentinel Re	
6 Q Did you ever make any effort to find	6 to pay for legal fees or costs associated with the	
7 out?	7 UBS litigation?	
8 A No. It's not it wasn't my job to	8 A I don't know.	
9 allocate legal fees between, you know, items.	9 Q Would Scott Ellington know? Or would	
10 Q Do you know if Sentinel ever paid for	10 you expect Scott Ellington to know, I should say?	
11 part of the legal fees that McKool Smith agreed to	11 A Yes.	
12 under this payment schedule in Exhibit 31?	12 Q Would J.P. Sevilla have anything to do	
13 A If it was allocated, it would have	13 with arranging for Sentinel Re to pay legal fees	
14 paid. I know McKool I know we did pay McKool	14 or expenses associated with the UBS litigation, as	
15 according to that schedule.	15 far as you know?	
16 Q What do you mean, 'if it was	16 A I don't know.	
17 allocated"? What does that mean?	17 Q Would you expect Scott Ellington to be	
18 A Well, I'm just saying whoever did the	18 aware of whether or not Isaac Leventon and J.P.	
19 accounting in legal or accounting, if they said	19 Sevilla had that authority?	
20 X percent was going to be paid by one entity and	20 A Yes, I believe Scott would know.	
21 Y percent was going to get paid by another and	21 Q Do you know your legal team stayed at	
22 Z percent was going to get paid by another, they	22 the Four Seasons for the UBS litigation?	
23 would have kept to that schedule. And I know	23 A No, I did not know that.	
24 McKool Smith was paid the monies outlined here.	Q Did they deserve to stay at the Four	
25 Q And who would have had the respons	25 Seasons?	
238		240
1 who would have had the authority to tell Sentinel	1 A You know, not based on results to date.	
2 they've got to pay a certain allocation of these	Q Okay. Let's look at the document	
3 fees?	3 behind Exhibit I'm sorry, behind Tab 12, which	
4 A Whoever was doing legal fee expense	 behind Exhibit I'm sorry, behind Tab 12, which has previously been marked as Exhibit 2. 	
4 A Whoever was doing legal fee expense 5 allocations at the time.	 behind Exhibit I'm sorry, behind Tab 12, which has previously been marked as Exhibit 2. MR. TAYLOR: While we're waiting for 	
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	1 May 10, 2021
241	243
1 A Yep.	1 Reinsurance and each of Highland CDO Opportunity
2 Q Is that your signature?	2 Master Fund, LP; Highland CDO Holding Company and
3 A Yep.	3 Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company
4 Q And did you have authority to sign on	4 (together, 'Sellers')."
5 behalf of those entities that are listed there	5 Do you see that?
6 under "Seller"?	6 A Yes.
7 A I believe so.	7 Q Now, that's what it says up there. And
8 Q And same thing with is that also	8 then it says that "Sellers are each a party in a
9 your signature for Highland CDO Opportunity Fund,	9 lawsuit styled UBS Securities LLC and UBS AG,
10 Limited and Highland CDO Holding Company on this	10 London Branch versus Highland Capital Management,"
11 same document?	11 et cetera. And that's defined as the "Lawsuit."
12 A Yes.	12 Do you see that?
Q And you had authority to sign on behalf	13 A Yes.
14 of those entities as well?	Q And it says, "Whereas, Sellers desire
15 A I believe so.	15 to purchase a Legal Liability Insurance Policy
	16 relating to Sellers' potential liability in the
16 Q And then it's also got Highland Special 17 Opportunities Holding Company. Same thing? You	
	17 Lawsuit" capital L, Lawsuit "in form
18 had authority to sign on behalf of that entity at	18 substantially as set forth in Exhibit A hereto
19 the time?	19 (the 'Policy')."
20 A I believe so.	20 Do you see that?
Q And then it continues with some other	21 A Yep.
22 entities on this document, including Highland	22 Q Now, does that mention anything about
23 Financial Corp. Do you see that?	23 any other litigation?
24 A Yep.	24 A No.
25 Q Did you have authority to sign on	25 Q Does it mention anything about
242	244
behalf of Highland Financial Corp. at this time?	1 transition services of any kind?
2 A I believe so.	
A I believe so.	2 A No.
Q And same thing with Highland Financial	A No. Q Does it mention anything about dealing
Q And same thing with Highland Financial	Q Does it mention anything about dealing with regulators or dealing with the IRS or dealing
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Conducted o	n May 10, 2021
245	247
1 benefits related thereto."	1 MR. CLUBOK: Or strike that.
2 Do you see that?	2 Q The Aberdeen asset. Do you recognize
3 A Yes.	3 that asset?
4 Q And, remember, the premium was supposed	4 A I just I recognize the name. It's
5 to be \$25 million, correct?	5 an old CLO.
6 A Yes.	6 Q Do you know what the fair market value
7 Q Then it says this is the entire	7 was at the time it was transferred as part of
8 agreement. It says you can only amend it in	8 the
9 writing. It says you can execute in counterparts.	9 A No.
10 It says the governing law is the Cayman Islands.	10 Q sales option, the \$25 million
11 And then it says, "Further Assurances," the	11 premium for the insurance policy?
12 parties agree to do the other things necessary to	12 A No.
13 execute this agreement. Do you see that?	Q Did you make any effort to figure out
14 A Yes.	14 the fair market value of the Aberdeen asset at the
15 Q And before you signed on behalf of all	15 time it was transferred?
16 these entities, did you make any effort to figure	16 A No.
17 out what you were signing?	17 Q How about the Southfork CLO? Same
18 A No, not beyond that. It was all tied	18 answer?
19 together, I guess.	19 A Yes.
20 Q All tied together with the insurance	20 Q Same answer for the well, there's
21 policy issuance, correct?	21 another Aberdeen asset. It looks like it's the
22 A Yes.	22 same one, although it's a different ISIN number.
23 Q And it referenced a schedule of what	23 What does the ISIN number mean? Is that like a
24 was being purchased, and I'm going to scroll down	24 CUSIP number?
25 in the document to the page that's entitled	25 A Yeah, it's an identification number for
246	248
1 "Schedule A" of Exhibit 2, and this is it will	1 things that aren't CUSIP eligible, I think.
2 be probably a little bit hard to read. I'm going	2 Q If there's different ISINs for the two
3 to scroll down part of the time so we can keep it	3 different Aberdeens, does that mean they're
4 large enough for you to read it on the screen.	4 different tranches or something? Or why would
5 But I can change the size if you want to see the	5 there be different ISINs for the two different
6 whole thing. I'll change the size briefly so you	6 Aberdeen assets?
7 can see the whole page and then I'll make it	7 A That's what I would guess, but I don't
8 smaller so you can or make it bigger so you can	8 know.
9 read it more carefully on the screen.	9 Q Okay. Do you so I'm going to go
10 So Schedule A has two pages, and it	10 from the assets from Aberdeen down to Greenbriar.
11 lists a series of assets. Do you see that?	11 So the first six assets listed here, fair to say
12 A Yes.	12 you have no idea what their fair market values
13 Q And these were the assets that this	13 were at the time of the transfer?
14 purchase agreement specifically said are being	14 A Correct.
15 transferred from the various Highland affiliates	15 Q And you made no effort to find that
16 as satisfaction of the \$25 million premium for the	16 out, correct?
17 insurance policy, correct? 18 A Yes. Yes.	-·
	18 Q And then there's two line entries for
19 Q Let me ask you about some of these	19 Highland Financial Partners LP and Highland
20 assets. Do you know what "Aberdeen LN FDG LTD	20 Financial Partners LP NPV. Do you know what that
21 PFD" is?	21 refers to?
A Yeah, some of these are old CLO pieces.	22 A No.
23 Q Okay. Do you know specifically I	23 Q Would those be interests in Highland 24 Financial Partners?
24 asked you about the first one, the Aberdeen	
25 entity	25 A I don't know.

249 240 251 261 262 263 264 264 265 265 265 266 267 268 267 268 268 268 268 268 268 268 268 268 268	240	-
2 A 1 don't know. 3 Q boy ou know if Highland Credit 4 A No. 5 Q How about Longstreet CDO or NexPoint 5 CCOM? Any idea of the fair market value of those 7 assets? 8 A Nope. 9 Q Pam Cap FDG I.P? Does that ring a bell? 10 A That was one of our—r that was in '98. 11 That was one of our first large CLOS. I think 12 that was 1998. 13 Q Any idea what it was worth at the time 14 of this trunsfer? 15 A Cents. Cents on the dollar. 16 Q How about — what's FRN? 17 A I don't know. Floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. 19 Q What's a floating rate note? 20 A Sometimes CLO tranches are referred to 21 as floating rate notes. 22 Q O Kay, Any idea what the fair market 23 value of that floating rate note would have been 24 at the time of this transfer? 25 A I don't know. I think 2 it is the equity tranche, but I don't know which tranche it is. It 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 26 Q Any idea how the value of that asset 27 A O Look, you would have been 28 as it is the equity tranche, but I don't know. I think 29 I the time of this transfer? 29 A Sometimes CLO tranches are referred to 21 as floating rate notes. 20 Q Nay, Any idea what the fair market 21 as soul and the floating rate note would have been 22 a How the value of that asset 23 aloue of that know which tranche it is. It 25 a I don't know. 26 Q Any idea bow the value of that asset 27 A I don't know. 28 A Law to idea. 3 Q Doy us a weath at the time of this transfer? 3 A I don't know. 3 Q And there's other entities that have 3 Q And there's other entities that have 4 assets, but well get to those in a minute. I'm 5 just going to continue through the CDO — Highland 6 CDO Opportunity Master Fund, I.P assets. 10 A No. 11 Q Look, you — you've offered settlements 12 in this case that relate to interest in Multi 13 Strat, correct? 10 A No. 11 Q Look, you — you've offered settlements 15 the end exacetly right — was loosely called 16 That wasn't one of our deals. Valhalla was one of 17 our old deals. 18 Q Was it — did it lose value before it 19 closed? 20 A		
1	1 Q Okay. Do you have any idea what the	an entity that's now called Multi Strat, correct?
4 A No. CCOM? Any idea of the fair market value of those assets? 8 A Nope. 9 Q Pam Cap FIG LP? Does that ring a bell? 10 A That was one of our first large CLOs. I think 11 that was 1 198. 11 That was one of our first large CLOs. I think 12 that was 1 198. 13 Q Any idea what it was worth at the time 14 of this transfer? 15 A Cents. Cents on the dollar. 16 Q How about — what's FRN? 17 A I don't know. Floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. Floating rate note. 19 Q What's a floating rate note. 20 A Sometimes CLO tranches are referred to 21 as floating rate note. 22 Q Okay. Any idea what the fair market 23 value of that floating rate note would have been 24 at the time of this transfer? 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 15 ags — is that 0 point — I don't know. I think 2 it is the equity tranche, but I don't — I don't 3 know. 4 Q How come there is no ISIN next to FRN? 5 A I don't know. 6 Q Any idea how the value of that asset would compare with the par value? 8 A I have no idea. 9 Q Tousa lne.? Any idea about that one? 10 A No. 11 Q Valhallal or Vertical? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were 13 worth at the time of the transfer? 10 A No. 11 Q Valhallal or Vertical? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were 13 worth at the time of the transfer? 10 A No. 11 Q Valhallal or Vertical? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were 13 worth at the time of the transfer? 10 A I don't know. 11 Q Look, you—you've offered settlements 12 in this case that relate to interest in Multi 13 Sirat, correct? 14 A Ves. 15 Q We have offered settlements 15 (D Q poportumities CDO Limited Partnership Interest. 25 Defore, but it is because of this. 26 Understand, but just to get the names 27 Cash poportumities of Highland Credit 28 Deportumities correct of the life settlements, 24 and because of this. 29 Doyou see that? 21 A Ses. 22 Q Okay, By the way, I should have 23 mentioned that all the assets Tim talking about 24 new on Schedule A of E	2 fair market value of those interests were at that	2 A I don't know.
4 A No. CCOM? Any idea of the fair market value of those assets? 8 A Nope. 9 Q Pam Cap FIG LP? Does that ring a bell? 10 A That was one of our first large CLOs. I think 11 that was 1 198. 11 That was one of our first large CLOs. I think 12 that was 1 198. 13 Q Any idea what it was worth at the time 14 of this transfer? 15 A Cents. Cents on the dollar. 16 Q How about — what's FRN? 17 A I don't know. Floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. Floating rate note. 19 Q What's a floating rate note. 20 A Sometimes CLO tranches are referred to 21 as floating rate note. 22 Q Okay. Any idea what the fair market 23 value of that floating rate note would have been 24 at the time of this transfer? 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 15 ags — is that 0 point — I don't know. I think 2 it is the equity tranche, but I don't — I don't 3 know. 4 Q How come there is no ISIN next to FRN? 5 A I don't know. 6 Q Any idea how the value of that asset would compare with the par value? 8 A I have no idea. 9 Q Tousa lne.? Any idea about that one? 10 A No. 11 Q Valhallal or Vertical? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were 13 worth at the time of the transfer? 10 A No. 11 Q Valhallal or Vertical? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were 13 worth at the time of the transfer? 10 A No. 11 Q Valhallal or Vertical? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were 13 worth at the time of the transfer? 10 A I don't know. 11 Q Look, you—you've offered settlements 12 in this case that relate to interest in Multi 13 Sirat, correct? 14 A Ves. 15 Q We have offered settlements 15 (D Q poportumities CDO Limited Partnership Interest. 25 Defore, but it is because of this. 26 Understand, but just to get the names 27 Cash poportumities of Highland Credit 28 Deportumities correct of the life settlements, 24 and because of this. 29 Doyou see that? 21 A Ses. 22 Q Okay, By the way, I should have 23 mentioned that all the assets Tim talking about 24 new on Schedule A of E	3 time?	Q Do you know if Highland Credit
5 Q How about Longstreet CDO or NexPoint 6 C COM? Any idea of the fair market value of those assets? 8 A Nope. 8 A Nope. 8 A Nope. 8 Q Pam Cap FDG LP? Does that ring a bell? 10 A That was one of our — that was in '98. 11 That was one of our first large CLOs. I think 12 that was 1998. 13 Q Any idea what it was worth at the time of the first starge? 14 A Lon't know. I mean, I'm willing to 11 be educated, but I don't know. 15 Q Was Multi Strat, right? 16 Q How about — what's FRN? 17 A I don't know. Floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. Floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. Floating rate note? 10 A Sometimes CLO tranches are referred to 21 as floating rate notes. 22 Q Okay, Any idea what the fair market 4 at the time of this transfer? 23 value of that floating rate note would have been 4 at the time of this transfer? 24 at the time of this transfer? 25 A I don't know. 4 Q How come there is no ISIN next to FRN? 5 A I don't know. 4 Q How come there is no ISIN next to FRN? 5 A I don't know. 6 Q Any idea how the value of that asset would compare with the pur value? 7 A I don't know. 8 Q Was Hutti Strat right? 1 Fund, LP." Do you see that? 2 Longes. 2 Q Okay. By the way, I should have 23 mentioned that all the assets I'm talking about 24 now on Schedule A of Exhibit 2 are under a big 25 bold, heading, "Highland CDO Opportunity Master abig 25 bold, heading, "Highland CDO Opportunity Master was asset, what the was not each a compare with the pur value? 10 A No. 11 Q Valhalla or Vertical? Any idea about 11 to Lon't a don't know. 12 (Does assets, what they were or how much they were worth worth at the time of the transfer? 14 A Noidea. Those are CLOs, but I 1 Cook, you — you've offered settlements 12 in this case that relate to interest in Multi Strat was once the 17 our old deals. 18 Q Was it—did it lose value before it 19 closed? 19 closed? 20 A I have no idea. 21 Q Deportunities CDO Limited Partnership Interest. 22 Q Okay, by the way of Fred settlements out of Multi Strat was once the 17 our old	4 A No.	
6 CCOM? Any idea of the fair market value of those assets? 7 assets? 8 A Nope. 9 Q Pam Cap FDG LP? Does that ring a bell? 10 A That was one of ourt that was in '98. 11 That was one of our first large CLOs. I think 12 that was 198. 12 Q Any idea what it was worth at the time 14 of this transfer? 15 A Cents. Cents on the dollar. 16 Q How about what's FRN? 17 A I don't know. Floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. 19 Q What's a floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. 19 Q What's a floating rate note? 20 A Sometimes CLO tranches are referred to 21 as floating rate note ovoid have been 24 at the time of this transfer? 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 26 Saxs is that 0 point I don't know, I think it it is the equity tranche, but I don't I don't know. 4 Q How come there is no ISIN next to FRN? 5 A I don't know. 6 Q Any idea how the value of that asset would compare with the par value? 8 Q Well, do you know if tighland CDO 19 (O know, I mean, I don't know, I mean, I don't know what the time 10 A I don't know. 11 Park was 1998. 12 That was 1998. 13 (D A that was 1998. 14 A No idea. Those are CLOs, but I don't know what the time of the transfer? 15 A I don't know what they were or how much they were all they was a don't know what we trical is. It 16 That was 10 the firm of the transfer? 17 That was 10 the firm of the transfer? 18 A I have no idea. 19 Q Tousa Inc.? Any idea about that one? 10 A No. 11 Q Valhalla or Vertical? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were all of the candidate the firm and the true. 18 Q Was it did it lose value before it 19 closed? 19 Q The was 11 the firm of the transfer? 10 A I don't know. 11 Q Look, you you've offered settlements 12 thinks case that relate to interest in Malti 13 Strat, correct? 14 A No idea. Those are CLOs, but I is the equity Master Fund, LP assets. 15 Q I understand, but just to get the names 16 Tour old deals. 16 Q How come there is no ISIN next to For. 17 Lone of the centry fight and to one p		
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8 A Nope. 9 Q Pam Cap FDG LP? Does that ring a bell? 10 A That was one of our that was in '98. 11 That was one of our first large CLOs. I think 12 that was 1998. 13 Q Any idea what it was worth at the time 14 of this transfer? 15 A Cents. Cents on the dollar. 16 Q How about what's FRN? 17 A I don't know. Floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. 19 Q What's a floating rate note? 20 A Sometimes CLO tranches are referred to 21 as floating rate notes. 22 Q Okay. Any idea what the fair market 23 value of that floating rate note would have been 24 at the time of this transfer? 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 26 Tund, LP." Do you see that? 27 A Ves. 3 Q And there's other entities that have 4 Q How come there is no ISIN next to FRN? 4 A I don't know. 4 Q How come there is no ISIN next to FRN? 5 A I don't know. 6 Q Any idea bow the value of that asset would compare with the par value? 8 A I have no idea. 9 Q Tousa Inc.? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were 13 shorthand called Multi Strat always called Multi 16 Strat? 21 A Yes. 22 Q Okay, Any idea what the fair market 22 Q Okay, By the way, I should have 23 mentioned that all the assets I'm talking about 24 a tree time of this transfer? 25 bold, heading. "Highland CDO Opportunity Master 26 Tund, LP." Do you see that? 27 A Yes. 3 Q And there's other entities that have 4 assets, but we'll get to those in a minute. I'm 5 just going to continue through the CDO Highland 6 CDO Opportunity Master Fund, LP assets. 7 And did you know that Highland CDO 8 Opportunity Master Fund at one point had an 9 interest in Highland Credit Opportunities? 10 A No. 11 Q Look, you you've offered settlements 12 in this case that relate to interest in Multi 13 Strat, correct? 14 A Yes. 15 Q Was Multi Strat always one of 17 our ol		
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10		
11 That was one of our first large CLOs. I think 12 that was 1983 13 Q Any idea what it was worth at the time 14 of this transfer? 15 A Cents. Cents on the dollar. 16 Q How about what's FRN? 17 A I don't know. Floating rate note, I'm 18 guessing. I don't know. Floating rate note? 19 Q What's a floating rate note? 20 A Sometimes CLO tranches are referred to 13 as floating rate notes. 22 Q Okay. Any idea what the fair market 23 value of that floating rate note would have been 24 at the time of this transfer? 25 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 250 1 says is that 0 point I don't know. I think 2 it is the equity tranche, but I don't I don't 3 know. 252 2 Q Okay. By the way, I should have 253 how on Schedule A of Exhibit 2 are under a big 25 bold, heading, "Highland CDO Opportunity Master 250 26 A I don't know which tranche it is. It 270 28 A I don't know. 3 know. 4 Q How come there is no ISIN next to FRN? 5 A I don't know. 6 Q Any idea how the value of that asset would compare with the par value? 8 A I have no idea. 9 Q Tousa Inc.? Any idea about 11 Q Valhalla or Vertical? Any idea about 12 those assets, what they were or how much they were 13 worth at the time of the transfer? 14 A No. 15 A No. 16 D A No. 17 Q Valhalla or Vertical? Any idea about 18 Q Was it did it lose value before it 19 closed? 19 Closed? 20 Then we get to Highland Credit 20 Opportunities CDO Limited Partnership Interest. 21 O Then we get to Highland Credit 22 Opportunities CDO Limited Partnership Interest. 23 Do you see that? 24 A Yes. 24 A Yes. 25 Out a first dent that was one of this. 26 Or is a floating and the time of the transfer? 27 And did you know that Highland Credit 28 opportunities CDO Limited Partnership Interest. 29 Q Tous a first Part A I don't know. 30 A I have no idea. 31 C D Q Tous char? 31 C D Was it did it lose value before it 32 closed? 32 C D Ray Shuth were sail of the entity that I don't that I don't that was one of the I don't I don't though the control of the I don't I don't though the contr		
12 that was 1998. 12 O You've heard of the entity that I've 13 shorthand called Multi Strat, right? 14 A Yes. 15 O Was Multi Strat always called Multi Strat, right? 14 A Yes. 15 O Was Multi Strat always called Multi Strat, right? 14 A Yes. 15 O Was Multi Strat always called Multi Strat, right? 14 A Yes. 15 O Was Multi Strat always called Multi Strat pright? 15 O Was Multi Strat pright? 16 Strat? 17 A Iwe tried to clean up a lot of 18 funds that were small, and, you know, we tried to clean up a lot of 18 funds that were small, and, you know, we tried to 18 querties after the '08 20 crisis, but I dor't remember all of the name 21 changes. 22 O Okay. By the way, I should have 22 meder aby 22 move on Schedule A of Exhibit almands and strategies after the '08 20 crisis, but I dor't remember all of the name 21 changes. 22 Multi Almands and strategies after the		
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25 Q Now, Highland Credit Opportunities is 25 Q No, no, but I'm saying I'm just	A I don't know. A I don't know. A I don't know. A I don't know. A I have no idea. A I have no idea. A No. Valhalla or Vertical? Any idea about that one? A No idea. Those are CLOs, but I don't I mean, I don't know what Vertical is. That wasn't one of our deals. Valhalla was one of rour old deals. Was it did it lose value before it Closed? A I have no idea. Then we get to Highland Credit Opportunities CDO Limited Partnership Interest. Do you see that? A Yes.	Q And there's other entities that have assets, but we'll get to those in a minute. I'm just going to continue through the CDO Highland CDO Opportunity Master Fund, LP assets. And did you know that Highland CDO Opportunity Master Fund at one point had an interest in Highland Credit Opportunities? A I don't know. Q Look, you you've offered settlements in this case that relate to interest in Multi Strat, correct? A Yeah, but that wasn't because of this. Q I understand, but just to get the names straight, you know that Multi Strat was once the rentity that without getting all the acronyms at the end exactly right was loosely called Highland Credit Opportunities or Highland Credit Opps, right? A See, that's what I don't know. I mean, we have offered settlements out of Multi Strat before, but it's because of the life settlements,

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253	255
1 talking about the name. You know you have	1 100 percent payment of the Premium," which was
2 recently you recently caused people at Highland	2 \$25 million, correct?
3 to get you the redeemers from Multi Strat, and	3 A Yes.
4 fair to say that when you did that, you knew that	4 Q Okay. So going back to Schedule A, all
5 what is now called Multi Strat used to be called	5 of these assets together on Schedule A were to
6 an entity that was known as Highland Credit	6 satisfy the \$25 million premium for the insurance
7 Opportunities; isn't that true?	7 policy we have been talking about today, right?
8 A I don't remember.	8 A Yes.
9 MR. TAYLOR: Andy, that's been asked	9 Q And part of that was \$599,000 in cash
10 and answered, like, five times now, in a row.	10 from Highland CDO Opportunity Master Fund, right?
Q So continuing on the Schedule A, the	11 A Yes.
12 Highland CDO Opportunity Master Fund assets that	Q And that \$599,000 in cash would have
13 were transferred to Sentinel Reinsurance for	13 been a liquid asset that was being transferred as
14 satisfaction, in part, of the \$25 million premium,	14 partial payment of the premium, correct?
15 do you see there is an entry for 'NexPoint Real	15 A Yes.
16 Estate Strat -Z"?	Q And how about that \$2.4 million
17 A Yes.	17 promissory note from Dugaboy Investment Trust?
Q Do you know what that's worth?	18 Did Dugaboy pay that note, satisfy that note?
19 A Nope. No, I do not.	19 A Yes.
Q Then there's a Highland Gemini Program	Q So and Dugaboy do you know if
21 \$2.4 million promissory note from the Dugaboy	21 Dugaboy is not going to make good on that note?
•	
22 trust as maker and cash of 599,000.	
Do you see that?	Q Has Dugaboy made good on that note?
24 A Yes.	24 A I don't know.
0 Name 1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-	Q Do you have any basis to believe that
25 Q Now, you know what the cash was worth.	25 Q Bo you have any basis to believe that
25 Q Now, you know what the cash was worth.	256
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257 259 A Yes. 1 for the premium, correct? Q So when Highland CDO Opportunity Master A No, I -- Andy, I can't say that, and I 3 Fund had \$8.4 million in cash and it gave it to 3 won't say that because we don't know what Sentinel for about a third of the premium, was outstanding bills might have been due. I mean, I that making that 8.4 million more liquid or less doubt they were 30 million of legal expenses, but 6 liquid? if we don't know what they are -- let's say they were 30 million of legal expenses. Then there is Q Was CDO Opportunity Master Fund more or no cash going over, right? 9 less liquid after this transfer of all of its Q Okay. You have no idea, as you sit 10 assets plus \$8.5 million in cash? 10 here today, if it would -- that 30 million is a MR. TAYLOR: Objection to the form. 11 number you just made up out of thin air; isn't 11 12 A I -- I --12 that true? 13 Q Yeah, sorry. To be clear, it's A Well, yeah, but you made up that 13 14 approximately \$8.4 million in cash. Was CDO 14 there's zero legal expenses. 15 Opportunity Master Fund more or less liquid after Q No, I haven't said that yet. And I'm 16 transferring all of these assets listed on 16 not going to get into an argument with you, but 17 Schedule A, including the roughly \$8.4 million in 17 that 30 million hypothetical legal fees is a 18 cash? 18 number you made out of totally thin air, correct? 19 A I don't -- I don't know. I don't know 19 A Correct. Q What, roughly, were the legal fees then 20 what the payables -- I don't know what the legal 20 21 fees were that were accrued. I don't -- you don't 21 owed by CDO Fund in August of 2017? A I have no idea so I don't want to 22 know enough of what else is happening at the CDO 23 Master Fund or the rest of HFP. I mean, it could 23 speculate. 24 have \$10 million of legal expenses. I just don't Q You previously said that the litigation 25 know. 25 had been dormant for a while in August of 2017; 258 260 Q As you sit here today, are you aware of 1 isn't that right? any such legal expenses that CDO Fund transferred A But you -- you helped refresh me that to Sentinel Re? it wasn't dormant and there was some significant A No, I don't. But to the extent that we 4 legal expenses due to McKool and other people, don't, we don't know whether the cash is spoken 5 right, so I -- I don't know if it was -- I thought for or not. 6 it had been dormant for a number of years. I was Q Okay. By the way, the Highland CDO wrong. Like I said, I didn't refresh myself on Opportunity Fund has another 2.3 million in cash. this case before the depo so ... 9 Do you see that? Q You're not aware of any legal fees that 10 A Yes. 10 were owed as of the time of this insurance policy, Q So now the total cash that's being 11 as you sit here today; is that true? 12 transferred to Sentinel Re is over 10 and a half A I have no awareness, correct, of 13 million dollars, right? 13 whether there were zero or 30 million or A Yes. 14 10 million or 5 million. 15 Q So that's higher than the threshold Q Well, you have no basis -- you know 15 16 above which you said it would be material as part 16 they weren't 30 million, right? 17 of this transaction, correct? A I think you -- you charged UBS 18 45 million. I mean, they could have been. Right? A I -- obviously, this transaction 19 changed a lot. This transaction does not, you 19 I mean, the last time we saw -- the last time we 20 know, correspond with my recollection. 20 saw Latham's bills to UBS, it was 42 or Q Right. But you would agree that the 21 44 million, right? 22 fact that there is at least 10 and a half million Q You know, as you sit here today, that 23 dollars in cash being transferred as partial 23 you never paid your lawyers anything like

24 payment of a \$25 million premium reflects the fact

25 that cash was a very material part of the payment

25 true?

24 \$30 million for the UBS litigation; isn't that

	n May 10, 2021
261	263
1 A I don't know.	1 600,000, plus another \$539,000, for a total of
2 Q Well, do you think in good faith, under	2 over \$11 million just on the first page of
3 oath, that you paid your lawyers something like	3 Schedule A, correct?
4 \$30 million for the UBS litigation?	4 A Yes.
5 A I'm saying, Andy, I have no idea. I	Q And then on the second page we can see
6 think there's been I think we've over the years	6 there is another 539,000 of cash that's being
7 had three or four different law firms working on	7 transferred from Highland CDO Holdings Company,
8 UBS. I don't know what they totaled.	8 right?
9 Q Okay. Let's continue with what was	9 A Yep.
10 transferred for the insurance policy pursuant to	Q And then there is another \$300,000 in
11 Schedule A.	11 cash from Highland Special Opportunities Holding
We now have an entity called "Highland	12 Company, right?
13 CDO Holdings Company." Do you see that?	13 A Yes.
14 A Uh-huh.	Q And there is another \$80,000 in cash
15 Q Is that a yes?	15 from Highland Financial Corp.?
16 A Yes.	16 A Yep.
Q And did that entity that's a	Q And a tax fund receivable?
18 subsidiary of Highland Financial Partners?	18 A Yep.
19 A I don't know.	19 THE WITNESS: Hey, Andy, I'm going to
20 Q Was okay.	20 have to put a break on this. I'm getting tired.
Well, you see that there's a number of	21 We can revisit tomorrow but
22 assets transferred. Fair to say you have no idea	22 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. You want to revisit
23 about the value of "HFT Real Estate," the first	23 tomorrow, huh?
24 asset?	24 Let's go off the record.
25 A Correct.	25 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off record. 8:35.
262	264
Q Or the second asset the NexPoint	1 (A recess was taken.)
2 assets, you have no idea what the value of those	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On record, 8:40.
were at the time of this transfer?	3 MR. CLUBOK: At Mr. Dondero's request,
4 A Correct.	4 we have agreed to continue the deposition
Same with the how about the Highland	5 Wednesday morning at 8:30 Central Time, sharp.
6 Park C 4.93867 asset?	6 Mr. Taylor has an appointment he has got to leave
7 A Correct.	7 for at about 10:15, but we only have a little less
8 Q What about the 25 November 51 or	8 than an hour and a half left on the record of my
9 25NOV51 FRN? Do you know what that was worth?	9 time, and however much time Mr. Taylor has used,
10 A No.	10 so we should be able to get that done.
Q How about a promissory note from CLO	But we're agreeing that we're going to
12 Holdco of \$32 million? Do you know what that is	12 start on the nose at 8:30, meaning people will be
13 all about?	13 in their seats a few minutes before with all the
14 A Nope.	14 technical issues resolved so that we can get
Q Do you know if that is a note that CLO	15 started right at 8:30, correct?
16 Holdco is capable of paying off?	16 MR. TAYLOR: I fully intend on being in
17 A I don't know. I don't know who CLO	17 my seat then. I can't promise everything, but
18 Holdco is. Is that the Bermuda entity that we	18 yes.
19 were talking about earlier? I don't know.	19 MR. CLUBOK: And that's correct,
20 Q Oh, you know what, my colleague has	20 Mr. Dondero?
21 noted to me that I missed another cash asset of	21 THE WITNESS: Yes, I'll be there.
22 539,000 that's right here. So let's just make	22 MR. CLUBOK: And you understand that
23 sure we've totaled up all the cash that was	23 you will not speak to anybody about the substance
24 transferred. It looks like it was 2.3 million,	24 of this deposition between now and then,
25 plus 7.7, is a little over 10 million, plus about	25 correct
25 prus 7.7, is a fittle over 10 fillition, prus about	25 0011001

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1 THE WITNESS: Yep.	1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER - NOTARY PUBLIC
2 MR. CLUBOK: or review any other	2 I, ADRIENNE MIGNANO, the officer before
3 documents related the deposition unless we ask you	3 whom the foregoing deposition was taken, do hereby
4 to through your lawyer?	4 certify that the foregoing transcript is a true
5 THE WITNESS: Yep.	5 and correct record of the testimony given; that
6 MR. CLUBOK: Okay. Let's go off the	6 said testimony was taken by me and thereafter
7 record.	7 reduced to typewriting under my direction; that
8 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is	8 reading and signing was requested; and that I am
9 8:41 p.m. This suspends today's deposition of	9 neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by
10 James Dondero. We're off the record.	10 any of the parties to this case and have no
11 THE COURT REPORTER: Counsel, are you	11 interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.
12 ordering a copy of the transcript?	12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
MS. GEORGE: Yes, we will take a rough	13 my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 13th day
14 and a five-day expedite for the final.	14 of MAY, 2021.
15 MR. FEINSTEIN: Yes, we would like a	15 My Commission Expires: June 2022.
16 copy, regular delivery, with a rough to	16
17 rfeinstein@pszjlaw.com.	17 / (1/1)
MR. TAYLOR: We would like a copy,	18 Horrine M. Migran
19 regular delivery, and a rough to	19 Adrienne Mignano
20 clay.taylor@bondsellis.com.	20
21 (Time noted: 8:42 p.m.)	21
22	22
23	23
24	24
25	25
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1 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPONENT	
2	
I, JAMES DONDERO, do hereby acknowledge	
4 that I have read and examined the foregoing	
5 testimony, and the same is a true, correct and	
6 complete transcription of the testimony given by	
7 me and any corrections appear on the attached	
8 Errata sheet signed by me.	
9	
10	
11 (Date) (Signature)	
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